

INTERNATIONAL

Row over Palme's murder probe

Swedish justice minister quits

STOCKHOLM, June 7. (Reuters) The abortive and scandal-ridden search for the killer of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme claimed a new political victim today when Justice Minister Anna-Greta Leijon quit over her handling of the investigation.

Leijon was forced to resign after it became clear that the government faced defeat in a parliamentary no-confidence vote.

She had admitted authorising a privately-financed, secret investigation into the February 1986 murder.

Leijon's covert investigation was headed by Ebbe Carlsson, a publisher with close links to the ruling Social Democrats but few other obvious qualifications. It ended in failure and embarrassment last week after Carlsson's bodyguard was caught trying to smuggle illegal surveillance equipment into Sweden.

Mistake

"Anna-Greta Leijon was committed to fighting terrorism and did more than anybody else to combat it," said Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, making no attempt to hide his bitterness at

the resignation of one of his closest political allies.

"But she made a mistake and the opposition could not accept that. So they have dismissed a woman who did so much against violence and terrorism," he said.

Carlsson vowed to return Leijon to office if the Social Democrats win what is expected to be an extremely close general election scheduled for Sept. 18. Meanwhile, her duties have been taken over by Industry Minister Thage Peterson.

Leijon's departure staved off a real threat that the entire Social Democratic government would collapse. It was left in a parliamentary minority when its traditional communist allies said they would support the centre-right opposition in a no-confidence debate later this week.

Confusion

Opposition leaders indicated today that they would now drop the resolution.

"It was right that she resigned. It was the only solution," said opposition Liberal Party leader Bengt Westerberg.

Palme was shot in the back while walking home with his wife

from a cinema. The lone assailant escaped down an alley.

From the first, attempts to track down the killer were marked by confusion, personal disputes, political intrigue, professional incompetence and bitter recriminations.

An official inquiry lambasted police for failing to cordon off the murder site adequately and neglecting to set up road blocks or airport controls.

Leijon took on her job last October after her predecessor Sten Wickbom quit in another security scandal which showed that the authorities had learned none of the lessons of the Palme murder.

An imprisoned Swedish spy was allowed to escape to the Soviet Union after being left unguarded during a conjugal visit to his wife. Again, police failed to close frontiers or alert border guards to the escape.

There are many theories about the motives behind the Palme murder, but there is little hard evidence. Attempts have been made to blame the killing on an Iranian hit squad, the Chilean secret police, right-wing dis-

sidents in the Swedish police force and Croatian nationalists.

The first head of the investigation, Hans Holmer, was convinced that the assassination was the work of left-wing Kurdish group. In January 1987 he rounded up 30 Kurds in a dramatic dawn raid.

Hours later, they were freed for lack of evidence. Holmer was taken off the case shortly afterwards, his career ruined.

Leijon, 49, was the third justice minister to resign under a cloud since the Social Democrats took office in 1982.

Last October Sten Wickbom quit after a convicted spy escaped while on an unguarded conjugal furlough from prison. In 1983 Ove Rainer resigned for allegedly taking advantage of tax loopholes.

The Social Democrats, have controlled the government nearly uninterrupted since World War II, have 159 seats in the 349-member legislature.

The popular Leijon was the rising star of the Social Democrats, the highest ranking woman in Swedish politics and a member of the prime minister's inner circle.



Swedish Justice Minister Anna-Greta Leijon closes her eyes after announcing her resignation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tamil rebels kill one soldier

Indian troop pullout begins

COLOMBO, June 7. (AP): Indian troops began hoarding homeward-bound ships in Trincomalee harbour today, just after Tamil rebels blew up a jeep and killed an Indian soldier in what a Sri Lankan official called "a show of strength" to mark the withdrawal.

Sri Lankan military officers said the jeep was being used on patrol some 10 kilometres south of Trincomalee when the rebels detonated a mine under it. Four Indian soldiers also were wounded.

"It was a show of strength by the rebels," said one officer. "It's a slap in the face."

Schedule

The Indian High Commissioner Nirupam Sen said the attack did not affect the pullout of the first contingent of Indian peacekeeping soldiers and weapons, including Soviet-made T-72 tanks and 105mm and 120mm artillery.

"The withdrawal is carrying on as scheduled," Sen said.

At least 3,000 of about 50,000 Indian soldiers in Sri Lanka were scheduled to depart for home today by ship.

Sen said the withdrawal began on schedule.

He said he had no details, but said the loading of the soldiers and heavy equipment was being carried out under the watchful eye of senior Indian and Sri Lankan officers.

Indian Defence Minister K.C. Pant said last week that "excess troops and armour" would be sent home, but announced no firm timetable for a complete withdrawal.

India began sending soldiers into Sri Lanka last July 30 to enforce a peace accord aimed at ending the five-year-old Tamil separatist war on the island. The deployment increased in October after the rebels renounced the peace plan, refused to surrender

all of their weapons and resumed fighting.

The Indian troops, stationed only in northern and eastern Sri Lanka where Tamils are in the majority, then were ordered to disarm the rebel fighters.

Tamils comprise 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people and claim they are discriminated against by the Sinhalese, who constitute 75 per cent of the population and control the government and the military. The rest of the population are descendants of Muslim traders or Christian colonisers.

India, the major power in the region, is home to 60 million Tamils. It hammered out the peace accord with the Sri Lankan government of President Junius Jayawardene, calling for the election of district councils to give the nation's nine provinces greater autonomy.

Elections have been held in six provinces so far.

Instant millionaires with luck

SACRAMENTO, Calif., June 7. (Reuters) A 26-year-old shop clerk and a 53-year-old airplane mechanic stepped into the glare of television cameras last night to claim equal shares of a record \$31.4 million-dollar California lottery jackpot.

The jackpot, offered in a drawing held on Saturday night, was the largest in US history, beating the previous record of \$46 million awarded last October in Pennsylvania.

The newest multi-millionaires were Randy Pennington, a clerk at a food shop where he bought his winning ticket, and Shelby Carroll.

Pennington, a bachelor, said he bought 10 one-dollar lottery tickets at the shop in a Sacramento suburb, then sat at home alone to watch the lottery drawing on television. He said he had not decided how he would spend his \$25.7 million share of the prize. The money will be paid in annual instalments of \$1,028,000 over 20 years.

Afghan rebels set to capture Kandhar

ISLAMABAD, June 7. (Reuters) Afghan government forces have fallen back to the final defence perimeter of Kandhar, tipped to be the first big city to fall to Muslim fighters, Western diplomatic sources said today.

In Kabul, a longstanding split in President Najibullah's government appears to have worsened and is causing concern for the Soviet Union, the sources said, quoting intelligence reports reaching Pakistan from Kabul.

Government troops had quit the outer two defence rings around Kandhar, in the far south, and were holding some rooftop positions in the city itself, the sources said.

Casualties among the troops were heavy, the sources said. One Afghan civilian in Kabul said he was told to look for the body of a relative among the corpses of 300 soldiers, all brought from Kandhar.

Another Afghan source reported a further 330 unhurt bodies in Kandhar on June 1.

also been killed. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev warned guerrillas not to harass his soldiers while they are withdrawing from Afghanistan under an international accord.

The guerrillas, who would like to prove they can take a major position from the Soviet-backed government, are reluctant to make a costly frontal assault, the sources said.

This is now the case elsewhere, where big government garrisons have reached a standoff with guerrilla groups.

The official Bakhtar news agency, monitored in Islamabad, quoted the commander of Khost, on the Pakistan border, as taunting local guerrillas for not being able to take his garrison.

Elsewhere, all Soviet troops may have evacuated Ghazni and Gardez which guard routes southwest of Kabul, and guerrillas control the main road to Kandhar, the sources said.

Air hostesses trim to size

HARARE, June 7. (AP): Air Zimbabwe's wide-bodied stewardesses have met a six-month deadline to lose weight or stay on the ground, a newspaper reported today.

The Herald said flight attendants who were told in December to trim down or face permanent grounding have shed their excess baggage. It did not say how many were involved.

In December, the airline gave the jumbo jet attendants the ultimatum after admitting that

its cabin crews outweighed those of most other airlines.

Officials said at the time that some stewardesses were so big their thighs humped passengers as they walked between the aisles.

The newspaper today quoted an unidentified airline spokesman as saying the stewardesses have lost weight and resumed normal duties.

Airline officials declined to elaborate.

Bulldozers stopped near Golden Temple

Sikhs resist demolition plan

AMRITSAR, June 7. (AP): At least 1,000 Sikh demonstrators today stopped a proposed demolition on buildings in a 30-metre radius around the Golden Temple, Sikhism's holiest shrine, authorities said.

Most of the demonstrators, who stood in a road and kept demolition vehicles from reaching the site, were tenants of the affected buildings, an Amritsar district government official said.

The official, who insisted his name not be used, said senior government officers were negotiating with the demonstrators. "The demolitions will not begin until the problem is resolved," he said.

The demolitions are part of a plan to create a "security corridor" around the temple, which has been used in the past as a base by Sikh militants agitating for an independent homeland.

Plans for the corridor were

launched after a 10-day police siege of the temple ended on May 18. The maze of alleys, shops and houses adjacent to the complex provided cover for the radicals to slip in and out.

The demonstrators were demanding that they be provided alternate accommodation before they were evicted, the official said.

Sarjheet Singh, the senior government officer in the district, said 522 properties would be demolished during the first stage of the operation to create a 2.75-kilometre corridor.

Killed Later, the government proposes to demolish buildings within a radius of 30 metres from the temple, Singh said.

The entire project, scheduled to be completed within two years, is expected to cost 1.5 billion rupees (\$115 million) which would include expenses to buy the "land" and relocate

families and businesses, he said. The first phase is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, he said.

Meanwhile, the United News of India news agency said a Sikh temple was shot and killed by militants at a village near Amritsar on Monday.

The killings raise to 1,259 the number of people killed this year in attacks blamed on Sikh militants. Many of the victims have been members of the majority Hindu community, but the militants have also targeted moderate Sikhs.

Sikhs form only two per cent of India's 800 million people but are in a majority in northern Punjab state.

Sikh militants have been agitating since 1982 for an independent homeland in Punjab, claiming they are discriminated against by the Hindus, who comprise 80 per cent of the country's population.

Message of love to US hostage held in Lebanon

BEIRUT, June 7. (AP): Two Beirut newspapers published a letter to American hostage Terry Anderson today, the third birthday of his daughter Sultane, who he has never seen.

"Her only wish is to see you and be with you," Sultane's mother, Madeleine, said in the letter published in Arabic on the back pages of the independent An-Nahar and leftist As-Safir dailies.

"She knows that ... you want to be with her, but that you can't do that yet," the letter said.

Anderson, 41, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press, was kidnapped March 16, 1985, in West Beirut. Sultane was born almost three months later.

"She's good and patient, so should we be, my darling," the letter said.

Anderson, a native of Lorain, Ohio, is one of nine Americans who are among 18 kidnapped foreigners missing in Lebanon. Most, like Anderson, are held by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim extremists.

An Iranian Embassy spokesman confirmed that between 17 and 19 Iranians have been missing in Beirut's eastern sector since May 13.

"They were part of a group of some 160 Iranian tourists who were staying in West Beirut," said the spokesman.

He added that the missing Iranians, members of five families, disappeared after they crossed to Beirut's Christian sector to travel by boat from Jounieh, north of Beirut, to Larnaca, Cyprus.

"We have no confirmation that they left Lebanon. We have no confirmation that they stayed," said the spokesman.

"The embassy has no further details."

East Beirut, Jounieh and most of the Christian hinterland are controlled by the right-wing Lebanese Force.

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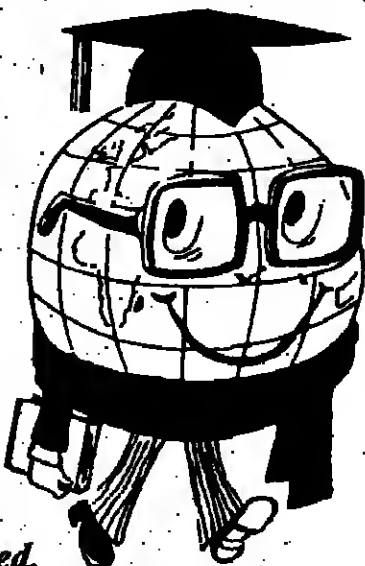
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Arab summit opens in Algiers

(Continued from Page 1)

"... Just like the Algerian revolution united Arabs, the Palestinian revolution on the occupied Palestinian soil is uniting our feelings. We stand behind the Palestinian cause until the restoration of the Palestinians' legitimate and national rights."

Hussein said he offered "a salute of pride" to the Palestinians.

"May God assist us in making the decisions that will consolidate your revolution as the path to liberation and dignity," he said.

Rights

PLO leader Yasser Arafat listed at the opening session what he said were non-negotiable rights of the Palestinians.

These were the right of exiles to return to territories occupied by Israel, the right of self-determination and the right to set up an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

"Developments in the international situation depend to a large extent on what results from this conference of yours," Arafat told the Arab heads of state present.

Consultations

The Arab leaders held intensive private consultations ahead of the summit after they started arriving in Algiers yesterday. The heads of 17 out of 20 Arab states, as well as Arafat, were at the opening. Iraq, Somalia and Oman were represented by senior officials.

King Hassan of Morocco was the last to arrive, sailing into Algiers port aboard a luxury ship to set the seal on last month's rapprochement with neighbouring Algeria.

It is his first visit since the two countries broke off relations in 1973 over Algerian support for Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for the independence of the Western Sahara.

At the freshly painted Aurassi Hotel, venue of the three-day emergency summit, Hussein and Arafat had their first meeting since the Arab summit in Amman last November.

A PLO source said it was "a very good meeting" but gave no details. Their talks in Amman were described at the time as cold and formal.

Enhanced

Arafat, his prestige enhanced by Arab affirmation for Palestine, said the summit would be a "very good meeting" but gave no details. Their talks in Amman were described at the time as cold and formal.

Underground leaders of the uprising issued a statement today demanding that the summit sanction guerrilla attacks against Israel, a move opposed by states along Israel's borders such as Syria and Jordan.

"Arab borders with Israel should be opened for guerrilla struggle," an open letter said.

The appeal could embarrass Arab leaders here, brought together by Chadli Benjedid to co-ordinate Arab support for the uprising, which enters its seventh month on Thursday. More than 200 Palestinians have so far died in clashes with Israeli soldiers.

The task before the Arab leaders looked easier than expected today after a PLO spokesman hinted the organisation would not seek explicit rejection of the peace plan which the United States has tried to sell to the region.

"No Arab leader has accepted it... since the United States does not take into consideration the rights of Palestinians, whatever proposals they put forward are dead," spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif, told reporters in response to questions on whether the PLO wanted outright rejection.

Support

Arafat will ask the meeting to restate Arab support for an independent Palestinian state.

"Now Arab leaders are meeting to tell the world — both East and West — that Palestinians have the right to an independent state," Abu Sharif said last night.

Ahu Sharif said Arafat would also seek Arab reaffirmation of the PLO's status as the authentic voice of the 1.2 million Palestinians living under Israeli occupation.

This would reverse the humiliation he suffered at the Arab summit when Arab leaders departed from normal practice by leaving the door open to a federal solution with Jordan.

Hostage contacts

LONDON, June 7. (AP): The United States, Britain and West Germany have all initiated direct contacts with the Iranians in an effort to free their hostages in Lebanon, the Times of London reported today.

In a front-page story, the conservative daily quoted reliable Shiite and Sunni Muslim sources in Beirut as saying the United States opened talks with Iranian officials almost two months ago in the hope of finding a "legal" formula to secure the release of the American hostages.

Sheikh Ibrahim in talks with Prince Hassan on agriculture

AMMAN, June 7. (KUNA) Board Chairman and Director-General of the Kuwait Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah today met with Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal, in the presence of Jordanian Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al-Faraj, Kuwaiti Charge d'Affaires in Amman Fadhil Bujaith and other ranking Jordanian officials.

Pleased

Sheikh Ibrahim said, following an hour-long audience with Prince Hassan, that he relayed the wishes of HH the Amir of Kuwait and also that of HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah to the Jordanian monarch and crown prince.

In a special statement to KUNA, he said that talks between the two sides tackled

bilateral relations in general and the agricultural sector in particular, in addition to discussing various spheres of joint Arab action.

Sheikh Ibrahim noted that the instructions given by Prince Hassan to him and to his fellow Jordanian Agriculture Minister, stem from the feeling of the giant responsibilities shouldered by Jordan.

On his impressions on the Jordanian agricultural projects, he visited, Sheikh Ibrahim said that he was more than pleased, especially toward what he saw at the national centre for manufacturing pollens.

Model

Speaking of Al Faisal nursery, he described it as "model and advanced," expressing hope that a similar nursery would be established in Kuwait.

Sheikh Ibrahim said that he and Minister Al Fhaid talked

of enhancing bilateral agricultural relations, particularly in the field of exchanging expertise and investments.

On the other hand, he expressed satisfaction over the accomplishment of the authority, in the fields of upgrading agriculture and animal wealth.

Citing these achievements, Sheikh Ibrahim said that the number of farms jumped from 100 to 600 and cattlebreeders went from a few hundreds all the way to 1200.

He went on saying that there are 50,000 sheep distributed in and outside Kuwait, in addition to 30 dairy farms grouping 15,000 cows for milking purposes.

During his stay, the Kuwaiti official accompanied by his delegation along with the Jordanian agriculture minister visited an area in the Jordanian desert, which protects rare wildlife from extinction.



● A delegation of students of the eighth cultural course organised by Kuwait Workers Union visited Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) where they toured the agency's different sections and looked at work operations and services offered to subscribers.

Kuwait very keen on protecting environment

IBRAHIM HADI, the director of the Department of Environmental Protection, has said that Kuwait pays great attention to environmental protection at a top level, pointing to the message sent to US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in December last year, in which HH the Amir stressed major environmental concerns of international consequence.

Hadi told a local newspaper that the Amir's message demonstrated a deep concern for the United Nations Environmental Programme entitled: "Protection of the Environment: A Pre-requisite to Continued Development and Progress".

Hadi reviewed the main future activities sponsored in Kuwait by the Council of Environmental Protection which included massive beach clean-up operations to be launched early next month. The successful execution of these activities requires increased public awareness of the environment and full co-operation in the national effort. To that end, he said that the council would organise symposia at youth centres, marine clubs and popular

cafes, aimed at highlighting ways in which the public could contribute to the environmental campaigns.

Radiation

Hadi went on to comment on the potential dangers to humans of consuming food which had been exposed to radiation in processing operations, claiming that food treated thus could cause poisoning or even account for the development of cancer. Radiation is a danger in itself, but since the irradiation process is designed to kill the bacteria which is responsible for natural decomposition, it also means that food that was previously no longer fit for human consumption is being given an extended shelf-life without any indication of its former unfit condition.

He praised the efforts exerted by international establishments emanating from the UN anti-nuclear activity programme at curbing the use of radiation in food processing operations. Hadi noted that the efforts were timely in view of the fact that so many nations depended heavily on imported food products.

Importance of summit stressed

BAHRAIN'S Information Minister, Tariq Al Muayyid, in a press interview, has affirmed the importance of the emergency Arab summit to support the seven-month old Palestinian uprising.

Al Muayyid added, to a Kuwaiti weekly magazine to be published next Friday, that the Palestinians had proved to the world that they are stronger than all Israeli suppressive measures and that they eventually should be given their legitimate rights.

The Bahraini minister urged Arab leaders participating in the

summit in Algiers, to back the struggle of Palestinians, in the occupied lands till they restore their legitimate rights, to live with dignity on their national soil.

Talking about the Gulf conflict, he said it is high time that this war comes to an immediate end. Muayyid warned that this war serves the goals of enemies of Arab and Islamic nations.

He hailed, meanwhile, the Bahraini-Kuwaiti relations and reaffirmed his country's support to Kuwait against hostile campaigns and challenges.

Cost analysis course opened

ABDUL Latif Al Mohjem, the assistant undersecretary for financial affairs at the Ministry of Public Health, yesterday opened a course on cost analysis for personnel in the financial affairs department, as part of the ministry's plan to optimise performance levels.

Al Mohjem delivered an opening speech in which he stressed that the course was intended to upgrade the functional performance of the participants and that the subject of the course was of prime importance since national budgeting, inventory and final accounts needed efficient handling.

He emphasised the importance of a well-integrated data-flow system to cost analysis, which he said was instrumental in determining optimum operation.

He laid particular stress on the efforts made to organise the course and urged all participants to make full use of it.

Science club team in Tokyo

TOKYO, June 7. (KUNA) A delegation of the Kuwait Science Club today started meeting with senior officials in the Japanese academic institutes, a Kuwaiti embassy source said.

He added the four-member team, arriving here last Friday on a week long visit, will also confer with a number of Japanese government officials.

Four years for stealing

THE criminal court sentenced a man to four years jail with hard labour to be followed by deportation for stealing KD77,530 worth of cosmetics belonging to a government establishment. The accused was arrested by the police while he was trying to leave the country.

Egyptian force for haj security denied

EGYPTIAN Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr has denied rumours that a special Egyptian task force will be sent to Saudi Arabia to help secure the safety of the upcoming haj season, particularly following the chaos created by some of the Iranian pilgrims last year, affirming, "we have absolute confidence in the Saudi security authorities."

Speaking of an Iranian plot to stir commotion in the Egyptian society, the interior minister said that all fingers point to Iran as the mastermind behind such troubles stressing that his country has always followed the Sunni sect of Islam.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published yesterday Major General Badr noted that there are several groups which dub themselves as an "Islamic group", saying that these "religious extremists" are

relatively small in number, yet remarkably active.

Regarding the country's internal security, he said that due to the shaky situation in the area, Egypt is taking all necessary precautions to shield itself against crime topped by drug trafficking and terrorism, pointing out that a link was unveiled between religious factions in Egypt and Tehran.

While affirming that there is no new information on the case of the "Egypt Revolution" organisation, denying that the government had deported Khaled Abdel Nasser, son of late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser and the prime suspect in this case.

The organisation of Egypt Revolution is charged with assassination attempts of Israeli and US figures in Egypt in the past couple of years.

3,197 banned from travel

BADER NASER AL HOUTI, deputy director of the executive department at the Justice Ministry said 3,197 people were banned from travelling abroad up to May, this year.

He said the travel ban was necessitated by the free-trade system prevalent in the country based on payment by instalments. Because of the existence of various nationalities, there was need for official procedures to be legalised guaranteeing the creditors' right to payment and to safeguard against frauds.

The travel ban was a precautionary measure designed to ensure that people with debts did not leave the country prior to payment.

Creditors wishing to apply for a travel ban could do so by presenting the necessary documents to the magistrate at the Court of First Instance. If approved, the magistrate would send an official request to the Ministry of Interior for

appropriate action, with a copy being sent to the applicant.

Travel bans, he said, would be withdrawn at the written request of the applicant or creditor, or, when the debtor had made all due payments, and the creditor failed to produce a document certifying that judicial or legal actions were pending against the person involved in pursuit of the payment within seven days from the date of issue.

In conclusion, he said that travel bans would be issued containing up to the fourth name of a person concerned including a photocopy of their passport to avoid confusion and the department was endeavouring to finalise the problem of identical names.

Three years for adultery

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a woman charged with adultery to three years in jail with hard labour to be followed by deportation.

The court was informed that the woman's husband was out of the country on an extended travel and that she committed adultery intermittently over a period of one year which resulted in her giving birth to a baby boy.

Failure by the woman to have her baby delivered at the hospital caused a police investigation which revealed that the woman's co-accused adulterer had died shortly before the woman gave birth.

Kuwait's Criminal Court also sentenced a foreigner to seven years jail with hard labour to be followed by deportation for raping a young girl.

The victim was a neighbour of a friend of the accused whom he frequently visited. The accused befriended the girl by offering her sweets on different occasions and attempted to rape her.

Mubarak meets Alawi

CAIRO, June 7. (KUNA) Omani State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Yousef Al Alawi today left here concluding a one-day visit to Egypt, Radio Cairo reported.

Earlier in the day, Egyptian head of state Hosni Mubarak received Al Alawi, the radio

Contracts signed

STATE Minister for Housing Affairs, Nasser Abdulla Al Roudhan has signed a number of contracts with several local contractors costing a total of KD2.5 million.

The contracts include building of a number of service facilities in various parts of Kuwait.



● Swedish National Day was celebrated yesterday by the Swedish community at Hilton Hotel. The ceremony was inaugurated by the ambassador Ulf Norstrom addressing a speech followed by the hoisting of the flag and community singing. Picture shows the Swedish ambassador addressing the gathering.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

Oman's discreet Gulf diplomacy keeps doors open to all

MUSCAT, June 7, (Reuters): The Chinese commercial attaché samples the prawn canapes, waiters weave between Saudi and American ambassadors, the Iranian chargé d'affaires chats amiably with other diplomats.

This is the cocktail circuit Omani-style, a rare show of civility glancing over the tensions of a volatile region with a long history of hostility and a short fuse for diplomacy.

Here, rivals in the complex world of Middle East politics rub shoulders easily under the same roof.

Oman, dragged by the scruff of the neck into the 20th century by Sultan Qaboos Bin Said 18 years ago, is fast gaining a reputation for neutrality and political independence in a region scarred by the protracted Gulf war.

Sultan Qaboos, a 47-year-old absolute ruler trained at Sandhurst Military Academy in England, may be pro-Western and rely on a traditionally discreet and low-key link with Britain for the training of his armed forces.

Balancing
But unlike the leaders in most neighbouring Gulf states he has refused to side openly with Baghdad against Ayatollah Khomeini's Tehran regime and so far avoided being sucked into the conflict.

"It is a difficult and necessary balancing act," said one Western diplomat in Muscat. "And one the Omanis have so far done consummately well."

The balancing act is all the more difficult since it has been conducted from a position of economic weakness as oil earnings slide and has often meant going against opinion in the Arab world.

Justified
When Arab nations broke off relations with Egypt over the 1978 Camp David accords with Israel, Oman refused to follow suit.

Now Egypt has been readmitted to the mainstream Arab fold, Muscat officials see their original decision as justified.

It is a necessary balancing act since Oman has to live with Iran, which has Silkworth missile sites less than 60 miles away across the Strait of Hormuz.

Oman's rugged Musandam peninsula just put into the narrow strip of water, dubbed by President Reagan as a "choke-point of freedom". One-sixth of the non-communist world's oil is shipped through the strait, scene

of countless attacks on merchant vessels by Iranian gunboats.

Diplomats said Oman was almost certainly embarrassed by a recent spate of Iranian raids on neutral shipping. But there has been no more than harsh words between the small Omani Navy which polices traffic in the waterway and the Iranians.

It was on Omani soil last September that 26 Iranian seamen who survived a US attack on their mine-laying boat were handed over for repatriation.

Bridge
When Saudi Arabia broke off relations with Iran in April, accusing Tehran of plotting disturbances at this year's pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca, Oman adopted its traditionally low profile.

"Sometimes the other Gulf states get annoyed at Oman's independence and habit of being the odd man out," said another diplomat.

But those states also realise fully well they still have a bridge open to Iran through the Omanis.

It is behind the scenes that Oman prefers to conduct its diplomacy, although contacts with Soviet and Chinese diplomats stationed in Muscat have yielded scant progress in implementing a United Nations ceasefire call in the Iran-Iraq war.

Broker
Indeed, Sultan Qaboos is thought unlikely to put his reputation on the line and play the role of public broker between Iran and Iraq unless there are clear signs of a breakthrough in talks over last July's UN resolution which Tehran has refused to accept.

By the same token, Sultan Qaboos, who overthrew his isolationist father and began to open up the country of 1.5 million people to the Western world in 1970, has sometimes sent representatives to the region's numerous conferences rather than attend in person, apparently frustrated by the lack of results.

Independence
He will not, for example, attend this week's Arab summit in Algiers called to discuss the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

Such decisions have not always proved popular with the other five member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the

United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Qatar.

But as one government adviser said: "His majesty will not attend a conference if he does not think it is worthwhile."

That independence shows through in Oman's oil policy, crucial for a nation which sees its economic fortunes rise and fall in line with volatile world prices.

It has not tied itself to restrictive production quotas by joining the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), but has often cooperated closely with the 13-nation group.

Petroleum and Minerals Minister Said Bin Ahmed Al Shanfari was one of the architects behind proposals earlier this year for OPEC and non-OPEC nations to agree joint production cuts to shore up prices.

That deal fell through, but Shanfari will be on the sidelines as an observer at OPEC's next conference on June 11 in Vienna where some oil analysts fear divisions between Iran and Iraq could test the cartel's unity to breaking point.

As if sensing further discord and the reluctance of Saudi Arabia to cut output if it would boost prices and help Iran, Oman has turned its back on production restraint and opened the oil taps wide to pump about 630,000 barrels per day.

That move sums up the tangible benefits to Oman of its non-aligned policies. As one Omanis said: "It's like running with the hare and hunting with the hounds."

Indian School obtains 100pc success

THE Indian School obtained a 100 per cent success in the recent All India Secondary School (Class X) Examination. Out of 307 candidates spread over 3 branches, 42 obtained distinction, 119 First Class and 77 were placed in the Second division. Revathi Rangan and Sheela Kunhalan topped the list among girls with 84.6 per cent marks each, followed by Komal Gulab Kanar 84.2 per cent, Surabhi Verma and Kalpana Thomas 82.4 per cent each. Among boys, Nadeem Abdullah Petkar was first with 87.4 per cent, Ziaul Hossain second with 86.2 per cent and Jacob Mathew P. third with 84.8 per cent. A large number of students obtained distinction and above 90 per cent marks in individual subjects.



Kuwait's Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Homoud Al Rqbah, presiding over the ministry's planning committee meeting held yesterday at the ministry's premises. The meeting was attended by the undersecretary, the assistant undersecretary and chief engineers of the ministry.

Time not ripe for arms embargo resolution

(Continued from Page 1)

Iraq has accepted the resolution and wants it to be implemented as it is written, but Iran is saying that the aggressor must first be identified before the implementation of the resolution.

The Soviet ambassador stressed the necessity of activating the mediation efforts of the UN secretary-general.

Zverev said: "Contacts with Iraq and Iran are made at the moment by the secretary-general. We think attention must be paid to this aspect."

"He also has at his disposal enough measures to try to implement resolution 598, for example he can send his special representative to Iraq and Iran."

On arms embargo, Zverev said: "The time has not come for such a resolution. The time is not ripe."

"Further, it is not just enough to adopt such a resolution, it must be supplemented with necessary measures to make it effective."

"One such measure may be to introduce internal laws by each state prohibiting private companies to supply arms."

Patience
"During the war, the Soviet Union has never delivered any kind of weapons to Iran. In principle we do not reject the possibility of adopting such a resolution."

Saying that patience will bring its results in implementing 598, Zverev hinted that it may take some time to end the war.

In this regard he cited the Geneva agreement in Afghanistan. He said: "It took six years to sign the Geneva agreement. The special representative of the UN secretary-general, Diego Cor-

dovez, displayed his patience during this time."

About Soviet mediation Zverev said: "We use our good relations with Iraq and to some extent with Iran, to persuade them to end the war by peaceful means."

An offshoot of the conflict is the "tanker war," in which both Iraq and Iran have attacked ships plying the Gulf. Even re-registered Kuwaiti tankers and American ships were affected. But so far only one Soviet tanker leased to Kuwait has hit a mine.

On whether Moscow has any agreements with Iraq and Iran for not attacking Soviet ships in the Gulf, the ambassador said: "Let us just say we are lucky. But, still, this luck is provided by the protection our naval ships in the Gulf provide to the merchant vessels."

The Soviets have five to six naval ships in the Gulf and they think "it is quite enough. We consider amassing huge Navies in the Gulf is not the way to provide security."

Mideast
Speaking on the results of the Moscow summit, Zverev said that Reagan and Gorbachev discussed the Mideast problem in all its aspects and there has been a rapprochement of views on the ways of solving the issue.

Both the leaders agree on the importance of an international conference to solve the dispute, the ambassador said.

The Soviets want such a conference to have full authority to solve all the problems, said Gorbachev on Monday, and he appealed for a conference that would include the parties in dispute plus the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. But the US wants the

international conference to be a prelude to direct talks between Arabs and Israel.

The Soviet ambassador said: "There must be an understanding that this conference should be plenipotentiary to solve all the questions. Within the framework of this conference, bilateral, trilateral or multilateral talks may be held. But all of them must organically coexist in this conference."

Representation

One sticking point about the conference has been the Palestinian representation. While the US and Israel are not ready to accept Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the conference, the Soviets insist that it is the right of the Palestinians to choose their own representative. The PLO is recognised by the Arab world as the representative of the Palestinians.

Zverev said: "In which form, the Palestinians will be represented is for them to decide. Whether in a separate delegation, or in the form of a joint Arab delegation — it is up to the Palestinians to fix."

"Palestinians must have equal rights at the conference."

In the conference, he said, the interests of all sides — Arabs and Israel — should be taken into account.

On this basis all the Arab territories occupied by Israel must be returned, the Palestinians must be allowed the right to decide their own fate and Israel must have the right to peaceful coexistence with the other countries of the region.

The Soviet Union will be prepared to discuss the restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel, broken off in 1967, once the international conference in Mideast begins, Zverev said.

He added there are some points in the Mideast peace plan proposed by US Secretary of State George Shultz that are acceptable and there are some "on which we have serious differences," Zverev did not elaborate.

"We (the US and USSR) are continuing talks to narrow down these differences," he said. "We want to play an active role at the conference, because the region is close to our borders and we are interested in solving the grave problems of the Mideast."

On resumption of diplomatic ties with Saudi Arabia particularly after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, he said: "Though we do not have ambassadors in one another's country, yet we have contacts. We are ready to exchange ambassadors. We are waiting for the other side."

ROYAL COURT

Amiri cable

HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to the President of Chad Hissene Habre on the occasion of his country's National Day.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Optimism over Arab summit

ALL Kuwaiti dailies yesterday called on the Arab summiters to give a big push to the heroic Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied land as a step toward solving the Palestinian cause as a whole.

Al Anbaa expressed optimism over the convening of the Arab summit in Algiers and hoped that the Arab leaders will "shoulder the historic responsibility during this current dangerous stage and that the Arab nation is passing through."

The newspaper pointed out that if the recent superpower summit was able to cover major strikes in international détente then the Arab summit should succeed in securing an Arab rapprochement.

"Arab reconciliation should be the goal of the summit," the paper called.

It stressed that the convening of the Arab summit, "after the waste of time, should now be translated into a real and practical support in the national uprising."

The paper also called on the Arab leaders not to ignore the Gulf war because "the current Iranian danger, which threatens the Arab nation, is not less than that of Israel."

The Kuwaiti daily also urged the summit to pressure Iran to make it "submit to peace."

It also noted that the Lebanese crisis should also be discussed because it needs firm Arab stance to end the destruction in Lebanon.

The paper noted that if the Arab leaders did not seize the opportunity of this summit to solve their national problems then "history and their nations will not forgive them."

Al Rai Al Aam asserted that the Palestinian cause is "olive and will not die," adding that "there is a generation that will remain holding stones until it restores its rights and identity."

The newspaper called on the Arab leaders to "take the appropriate measures to ensure political, economic, military and social support to the uprising" because this revolt is a preliminary step toward unity.

It also urged the summiters to submit the whole Palestinian cause for discussion and to take measures that will make the Palestinian uprising the path toward achieving a comprehensive and final solution to the Palestinian question.

"Al Qabas" called for an "urgent resolution" that supports the uprising, noting, however, that what really needs support "is the comprehensive national security."

The paper added that the fall of Palestine to the Israeli occupation, the Iranian aggression on Iraq and eruption of the Lebanese crisis were due to the absence of a strategic Arab national security.

"The struggle needs a political decision," the paper stressed, adding that this decision is "in the hands of our leaders who are currently meeting in Algiers."

The newspaper stressed that this emergency summit "should be unique by taking effective and strategic decisions."

Kuwaiti paper Al Watan wondered if the recent American peace initiative, carried recently to the Middle East by Secretary of State George Shultz, is to lure the Algerian summit to "soften" its decisions toward the Arab causes, against which the US adopts a negative stance.

The daily described Shultz's initiative as "dangerous and added, he wants to sell Security Council resolution 242 and 338 to the Palestine Liberation Organisation."

This plan does not even refer to right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, it added.

The American official, the paper went on, wants the Arab summit to be hesitant toward the uprising and toward the historic conflict between Israel and the Arabs.

The uprising has doomed to failure all the American initiatives at the international level, Al Watan said and hoped that it will do the same of the Arab level.

GULF PRESS

Arab leaders urged to adopt unified stance

GULF papers published yesterday urged Arab leaders to adopt a unified stance at the emergency Arab summit and to emerge with an action plan to tackle the critical issues of the Arab nation, notably the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Dubai-based newspaper Al Bayan said the summit has a "distinguished role" since its convening coincides with new regional and international developments, such as the Palestinian uprising, the new US Middle East initiative and the current rapprochement between the Maghreb states.

"Before such developments the Arab leaders find themselves obliged to adopt a unified national stand at their summit, because Arab action will be ineffective if not based on a principled and firm basis," the paper said.

Al Bayan added "the six-month-old uprising in the occupied territories which spurred the convening of the Algiers summit meeting has proved itself capable of continuing its confrontation with Israeli suppression and weaponry."

The paper continued "our brothers who confront the occupation do not need or expect the summit only to issue statements denouncing the enemy and blessing the uprising, because what is really needed for their uprising is a national and political backing and a joint programme of Arab action."

In conclusion, the paper said the Arabs are now able to anticipate the US moves in the Middle East and should not ignore at their summit Washington's policies in the region.

Another daily, Al Waha, said backing and supporting the Palestinian uprising gives Arab summit a great importance since it is convened to this effect.

Al Waha, like other local dailies, called on the emergency Arab summit to adopt "effective and positive" decisions regarding the uprising and cautioned against confining the efforts to back it by words.

"The world as a whole, except Israeli allies, has sympathised with the uprising, but what was the result... it was more Zionist terrorism and suppression," the paper added.

The Abu Dhabi-based Al Waha said the summit must announce "firmly and boldly" the Arab stands towards US peace initiatives and Israeli inhuman practices.

The Dubai-based English language daily Khaleej Times said "the Arab viewpoint has already converged on the need to fully and firmly back the Palestinian uprising" at the summit meeting.

It said the task now should focus on "drawing up concrete measures to crystallise this support."

The paper noted that "significance had been added to the summit by the current Middle East tour of US Secretary of State George Shultz" who has unsuccessfully been trying to promote his own plan for Middle East peace.

"The Arab heads of state and governments will have an opportunity to consider these developments and their implications before hammering out a comprehensive plan of action of their own," the paper stressed.

It urged the leaders to "arrive at a consensus on how to step up the freedom struggle and evolve a common stand on the Shultz plan."

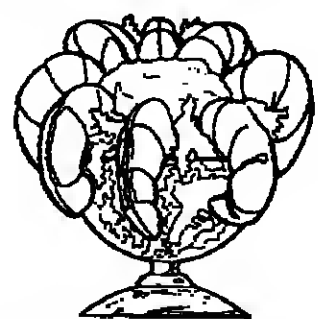
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PLO man linked to Naji killing

LONDON, June 7, (Reuters): A suspected member of a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) group was linked in a British court today to the killing of an Arab political cartoonist in London last July.

Prosecutors said police suspected Abdel Rahman Mustapha of involvement in the murder of Naji Al Ali, a London-based cartoonist for the newspaper Al Qabas.

The allegation was made at the trial of Jordanian Ismael Hassan Sowani. He was accused in a London criminal court of possessing explosives and arms which police

said Mustapha, a long-time acquaintance, had left in his flat.

"It is difficult to resist the view that Mustapha is a dedicated terrorist," prosecutor John Nutting told the court. He was known as an active member of the PLO forces in the (Lebanon) war in 1982.

He said police believed that Mustapha belonged to Fince 17, whose members serve as bodyguards to the PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Mustapha was not in court and police suspect he has fled the country.

In a raid on Sowani's home in northeast England, police found locked suitcases containing 66 pounds (30 kilos) of Czech-made explosives, detonators, fragmentation grenades, four assault rifles and more than 300 rounds of ammunition, Nutting said.

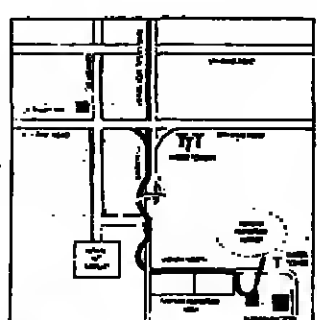
"The armaments represented the wherewithal to mount a sustained campaign of terrorism," he said, giving no further details.

Sowani, a college research assistant, denied the charges against him and told police he had not known the contents of the cases he was storing for Mustapha.

Nutting said Sowani first met Mustapha in Lebanon while studying there.

CASH & CARRY

REMEMBER



KUFUMA FURNITURE MARKET

SABHAN INDUSTRIAL AREA (SEE MAP)
OPEN: WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 8AM — 5PM

جوليتو

VIDEO CORNER

'Maybe . . . you'd like to kill'

By Gail Seery

WHY is it that everybody in films these days drives a nice car? How come impoverished professors drive around in imported, shiny two-seaters? Back where I come from they are lucky if they drive around in anything at all. Also I'm not certain how an unpublished writer gets to be professor of a writing course. *Throw Momma from the Train*, doesn't stand up to a thorough examination of the plot and its setting, but for all that it's well worked, a little weird, and very funny.

Billy Crystal, last seen as Jodie in "Soap" plays Larry, who takes a writers' class. He

has a major bang-up in that he once completed a book — and his wife stole it, had it published in her own name, and hit the bestseller list overnight. He hates her to distraction.

"So you want to kill her?" asks Beth, his girlfriend. "In general, yes. Specifically, most definitely," he replies.

He is clearly set to continue with his writer's block indefinitely, until Owen, played by the brilliant Danny De Vito crosses his path.

Owen has great dreams of being a writer, and is amazed that Larry doesn't like his story. "Murder at my friend Harry's." "It was three pages long. It was a murder mystery 3

pages long. There was no big deal to finding the murderer, the professor tells him. "Well, what gave it away?" "You only had two characters, one of which was dead on page two. It wasn't motivated." "Yes it was," Owen argues; "the guy in the hat killed the other guy in the hat."

In an attempt to teach Owen about suspense, Larry suggests he goes to watch a Hitchcock film, not realising the effect it's going to have on Owen's decidedly strange brain.

Owen has other problems, and it is these which link him inexorably to Larry. Basically, he hates his mother. True, his mother is pretty revolting. He

fantasises about killing her, but comes to realise he will never be able to do it himself.

When Larry talks about motive to him, he sees how much easier it would be if he killed Larry's wife, and Larry killed his mother.

Of course, once Larry's wife disappears, Larry immediately becomes the prime suspect, especially as his behaviour becomes so ridiculously unlikely. Owen shelters him from justice. "Owen, I'm not going to kill your mother!" "Just meet her," pleads Owen. "Maybe she'd be someone you'd like to kill."

This is not something that Larry can do, and he finds

Owen obtuse and annoying. "Guy kills my wife, and he can't even kill his own mother," he complains.

Finally Larry is roused to homicidal frenzy by Owen's mother, but typically comes worst out of the exchange, and finds himself in the hospital where, miraculously he rediscovers his ability to write.

Danny De Vito and Billy Crystal are well matched in this film. The whole thing is impressively put together, and very funny in places. Fans of Danny De Vito have told me that they did not think that this film was one of his best; if that is so then the other films must be outstanding.

By Brian Hollis

THIS week saw the arrival of the long awaited *Moonstruck*, which won two Oscars this year for Cher as Best Actress, and Olympia Dukakis as Best Supporting Actress. The film is a celebration of life in a New York Italian family, with daughter, parents, grandfather and dogs living in the same house.

Cher, whose husband died several years previously in a traffic accident, decides to get married to a long time admirer, a weak but reliable man whom she does not love. While her husband is off in Palermo at his mother's deathbed, Cher meets his brother for the first time and falls in love. Meanwhile, her mother finds out that the father is having an affair, and grandfather gets the wrong idea when he sees mother arm in arm with another man. A huge full moon dominates the night sky and we speculate whether La Bella Luna has brought on this collective madness. The family gather together around the breakfast table to await the return of the fiancé from Palermo, and in true melodrama, all's well that ends well.

Not much of a story you may think, but in fact the story has little to do with the success of this film. The script, sometimes funny, sometimes poignant, exposes the foibles and weaknesses of the Italian family whilst the atmosphere created by the moon, and the background music from La Bohème

Cher and Nicholas Cage in *Moonstruck*

enhance the feeling of wellbeing. It is difficult not to endorse those who were awarded the two Oscars, as *Moonstruck* is one of the most agreeable films since a long time.

For reasons unknown, all this week's main releases are dominated by women. The *Wives of August* is one of those vehicles dreamed up by Hollywood to make a last showcase for famous names of the cinema

— in this case Bette Davis and Lillian Gish, aged 80 and 92 respectively, supported by the sprightly Vincent Price (77) and Ann Sothern (79).

Two widowed sisters live together in retirement, on an island off Cape Cod, where, since their childhood, they spent summer vacations watching the whales blow out in the bay. Their constant bickering, or rather the grumpy domineering character of the elder sister leads the younger one to once again consider leaving to live on her own. The situation is exacerbated when an old neighbour's companion dies, leaving him homeless, and the elder sister refuses to take him into their spacious mansion. However, blood is thicker than water, and we are left feeling that maybe the *Whales of August*, which symbolise their childhood happiness, will indeed return this year.

If this was meant to be a scintillating performance by wonderful old actresses, then I for one was seriously disappointed. Bette Davis especially seems to be past it and some of her lines sounded like a child reciting poetry. However, the scenery is nice and the supporting roles (Price and Sothern) are well interpreted. Two similar films for ageing stars — *On Golden Pond* (banned) and *Trip to Boston*, were followed by the deaths of their principals

(Henry Fonda and Geraldine Page) within the year. Whose turn this time?

A third release dominated by women is *Baja Oklahoma* starring Lesley Ann Warren and Peter Coyote. The story takes place in a hazy, mythical Midwestern town where "Wanted" grew up and still lives. Now in her late thirties, deserted by her husband, she lives with her 17 year old daughter and works as a barmaid, still hoping to make it big as a country and western songwriter. An old flame who once killed her returns for the funeral of his father, and Warren is drawn to him in spite of herself. Her daughter elopes with a known drug dealer, and her latest compositions are turned down. Should she trust the old flame or not? Reading what I've just written it sounds like a very depressing film, but in fact there are a lot of lighthearted moments as most of the other regular customers at the bar are having affairs and getting caught, and for those who require a happy ending, I can reveal that once again, all's well that ends well.

The Comic Strip Company is a group of British standup comedians who joined together with Channel 4 TV in England to make a few feature comedies. About a month ago I reviewed the first of their releases *Supergrass*, which was very enjoyable, and now their second

feature *Eat the Rich* is also available, and very amusing. *Bad Dreams* is a new story of the supernatural. Cynthia has finally awakened from the deep coma which has cocooned her from the world for over a decade. She is the sole survivor of a mass suicide which completely destroyed a spiritual community like Jonesville Guyana. To help her recall the events surrounding the tragedy, she is placed in a special clinic. But soon, even in those supposedly safe corridors, Cynthia is besieged by strange and horrifying visions of a past which has invaded her present. And it becomes all too clear that her worst nightmares are about to come true. Jennifer Rubin stars as Cynthia.

For those who like lots of blood, *The Last Shark* makes jaws look like a minnow, crime thriller fans should warm to *Blindside* starring Harvey Keitel. Older children will enjoy Disney's *Wildlife Adventure* about a lone wolf. *The Legend of Lobo*, and youngsters of all ages can watch *The Best of Bugs Bunny and Friends*.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Filmas, Video Naut, Sahiya; and Video Club, Sahiya.

Punjabis pay tribute to Raj Kapoor

THE Punjabi Cultural Society in Kuwait recently held a meeting to pay tribute to the late veteran Indian actor Raj Kapoor, described by them as the "greatest showman on earth." Kapoor, they said, was a son of Punjab and was "close to the hearts of Punjabis, at home and abroad." Raj Kapoor died earlier this month.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Istiqal Pharmacy
Safat Square
Al Bakhsham Pharmacy
Sharq Roundabout,
Ahmad Al Jaber St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Nasser Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Sahiya and Rumaithiya
Phoenix Pharmacy
Khalid Essa Al Saleh Bldg.,
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Sadaf Pharmacy
Makkah St., F'heel
Farwaniya
Al Hayat Pharmacy
Main St.

Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 0.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Rahlat Haul Al Alam: cartoons
- 10.15 Shaqqah Bidoun Saqal: daily serial, with Tahiya Karioka, Dalal Abdul Aziz
- 11.15 Ila Abi wa Ammi Ma'a Tahiya: featuring Hayat Al Fahad, Khalid Al Nefisi
- 12.00 Good Morning/News Summary
- 12.15 People and Sports
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.30 Bahtout: Arabic serial, with Assam Sulaiman, Salah Qassas
- 3.35 Cartoon Serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 From the Mixup of the First Mrs Basil Frankweiler: English feature film. Starring logrid Bergman
- 6.00 Bunduq Wa Bunduq: children's serial, starring Liza, Abdul Rahman Abu Zahra
- 7.00 With Students
- 8.00 Open University



Sledge Hammer seeks reinstatement in tonight's episode, 10 pm, KTV2

- 8.30 Souk Al Ghaz: Arabic serial, featuring Mohammad Saeed, Shirin, Zubair Numan
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Rifat Al Hijra: starring Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Yusra, Yusuf Shaban
- 10.50 Hikayat Min Al Badiya: "Al Rooh," Starring Miyad Awad, Yusuf Al Jamal, Ali Al Samir, Yusuf Al Yusuf
- 11.50 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Mickey and Donald: cartoon
- 6.30 Tunes of the World: "Caribbean Tunes" Folk songs from the Caribbean
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "Some Enchanted Evening" Carol is disappointed after her boyfriend refuses to accompany her to a party
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: "Ray Doll." Starbuck's niece is involved with drug smugglers
- 9.30 Wildlife on One: "Punk Poffins and Hard Rocks."
- 10.00 Sledge Hammer: "Play It Again Hammer." Sledge and Drew are fired and they try to get back on the police force — the Sledge Hammer way
- 10.30 Private Eye: Frank is hired to protect a black American activist
- 11.30 News Summary
- 11.35 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- Morning
- 0800 Opening
- 0802 Songs and Music
- 0805 Writers and Poets in Arabic
- 0810 Literature
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Golden Collections
- 0930 Album Tracks
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 Music With a Theme
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Omnibus
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Report on Religio
- 45 Country Style
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 1st and 8th Big Bands — The Singers: 15th A-Z of Hollywood: 22nd and 29th Sports-world
- 30 Citizens
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Discovery
- 0400 Newsworld

- 30 Talk/Story (ex 1st Derby Preview)
- 45 Reflections
- 0500 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Report on Religion
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newsworld
- 30 Meridian
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Classical Record Review (ex 1st Derby Preview)
- 30 Spain of Britain 1988
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 1st, 15th and 29th Jazz Scene UK: 8th and 22nd Folk in Britain
- 1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus
- 20 A Word in Edgeways
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Talk/Story (ex 1st Time for Verse: 22nd The A-Z of Hollywood: 29th Country Style
- 25 (1st only) A Letter from Wales
- 30 Meridian
- 1200 Radio Newsworld
- 15 Living Berlin Among Friends
- 25 The Farming World
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88 (ex 22nd and 29th Sports-world)
- 45 (22nd and 29th) Development '88
- 1400 Newsworld, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 Report on Religion (ex 1st Outlook Contd.: 15th Sports-world)

- 1500 Radio Newsworld
- 15 The Politics of Laughter (ex 1st Education Today)
- 30 King Street Junior (ex 22nd Radio Active: 29th Two Cheers for June)
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain (ex 1st Commentary)
- 15 Counterpoint (ex 22nd and 29th Sports-world)
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary (ex 1st A Letter from Wales)
- 15 Society Today (ex 15th Sports-world)
- 30 New Ideas (ex 15th Sports-world)
- 45 Book Choice (ex 15th Sports-world)
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsworld
- 30 Multitrack 2
- 1900 Newsworld, opening with News Summary
- 39 Stock Market Report
- 45 Good Books
- 2000 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Assignment
- 2100 News Summary followed by Network UK (ex 22nd and 29th Sports-world)
- 15 Counterpoint
- 45 Recording of the Week

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qual
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Subha-e-Nau
- 2000 News
- 2020 Soap
- 2040 Hidayat: Rabbani
- 2100 Closedown

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WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Boushehri Gallery
Watercolour paintings by Yugoslav artist Jovica Prodanic is open at the Boushehri Gallery, Salem Al Mubarak St., Sahiya, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.40 pm: until June 9.

CINEMA

British Council
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, a film for children, will be shown at the British Council at 6 pm on June 15 and at 10.30 am on June 16. Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is just an old neglected car. Who could have guessed it has magical qualities? Approximate duration: 145 minutes.

THEATRE

Sounds Great
Sounds great, a pop-rock musical, will be performed at Sahiya Cinema on June 10, 5pm and 8pm. The show will feature Juice Box band with June Stevenson and Top Ranks with Adolf. Farewell appearance of Paul Fraser. Introducing Walid Al Nimej who will dance to Michael Jackson's top hit "Bad". Produced and directed by Ken Winston. Tickets - K.D.5. For

reservations ring 5740256/7; 5516991; 5758870.

Bengali Cultural Society
The Society will present "Bichhan", a Hindi drama based on a story by Bengali novelist Mahasweta Devi, on June 9, 10, 7.30 pm, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. The play is part of celebration of the 40th Indian independence anniversary. For reservations contact 3903976; 3901806; 5621379.

KLT
KLT's musical Brigadoon will be performed at 8.15 pm on June 8 and 9. Tickets — KD3; children — KD2. For reservation ring 3983724.

SOCIAL

D'Assisi Association
The association will hold a social - cum-entertainment evening on August 11 at Mesilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30am to 5pm; Henry 3291909 am, 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754 after 6pm.

Contact
The next meeting of the ladies information group, Contact, will be held on June 11, from 10 am, at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. Tel: 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

Pakistan Youth Association
A mushaira will be held on June 9 at the home of Asim Naushad in Sahiya. The former councillor of Pakistan to Kuwait, Abdul Haque, will preside. Chief guests are Ustad Qaem Amrohi and Ghulam Wafa Sabri. For details phone 2410997.

Bangladeshi Cultural Show
A well-known female magician, Ajra Jabben, from Bangladesh is due to perform in Kuwait later this month. Jabben will be accompanied by well-known Bangladeshi singers Fakir Alamgir, Farida Parveen and others. The colourful cultural evenings will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel on June 22 and 25. They will perform at Jeeb Al Shuyookh Cinema on June 23, Fahsheel Cinema on June 24, Jahra Cinema on June 26. For reservations phone 4717700 or contact the hotel.

Eld Reunion
An eid reunion party for Bangladeshi engineers and architects will be held at Mesilah Beach Hotel, Al Amal Hall, at 7 pm on June 23. For details phone 4718157; 4311351; 3713923 after 3 pm.

Kuwait Players Ball
Kuwait Players "end of season ball" on Thursday, June 9, KD7 per person. For details phone 5330934; 5613465; 5611546.

Badesik Re-union
The Bangladeshi Diploma Engineers Society in Kuwait, Badesik, will hold an Eid re-union and a cultural programme, with dinner, on Friday, June 10, at the Meridian's Banquet Hall. All Bangladeshi diploma engineers can take part. Tel: Altaf Rahman — 9015166; Ansar Ali — 4571603.

Senz aur Awaz
An Indian music group presents "Geeton Bhari Sham", their second concert, at the IAC, Funaites, on Thursday, June 16, 8pm. For reservations phone 3985456 after 5pm.

United Goans Centre

The UGC will hold their annual "Summer Belle '88" contest on August 11. The committee will host a gala event to mark the 10th anniversary of UGC.

SPORTS

PBAK Bowling Tournament

The Philippines Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) will hold their bowling tournament for men's and women's doubles on June 17, 24 and July 1 and 8, at the Holiday Inn hotel. The tournament will be held from 6 pm to 10 pm. The elimination rounds will be held on June 17 and 24. The semi-finals are on July 1 and the finals are on July 8. For registration contact PBAK Director Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 4843447.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

It is easy to be wise after the event — English proverb.

Kim Dae Jung learns to compromise

By Spencer Sherman

SEOUL (UPI): In the weeks since fiery dissident Kim Dae Jung won the post of National Assembly opposition leader, a quiet metamorphosis has begun inside the man whose life's passion has been to rid South Korea of military rule.

His firebrand speeches, born out of 17 years of fighting repression, still stir fervent followers. But with the responsibility of power now in his hands, Kim is showing signs of learning the politics of compromise over confrontation.

Kim recently softened his attacks on President Roh Tae-woo, gently criticized student activists and suggested delaying a parliamentary investigation of former President Chun Doo Hwan if it would spoil the atmosphere before the Olympics scheduled this autumn in Seoul.

In an interview with United Press International, Kim acknowledged that "the most difficult" time of his life began when he walked into the National Assembly building on May 30 for the first time in 17 years to lead the largest opposition party in the legislature.

On April 26, three opposition parties won enough seats to effectively control the National Assembly if they agree to mount a united front.

"It was easier to oppose," he said late last week of the years fighting a succession of authoritarian rulers including former generals Park Chung-hee and Chun Doo Hwan.

Support

Kim, who wields significant power as leader of the largest opposition party, also has reluctantly come to believe that his party must support Roh, a former general who won the presidency in December on the promise of democratic reform. Kim had previously called Roh an extension of military rule.

Kim said a fight was brewing between Roh and his former patron, Chun, who rose to the presidency through a 1979 military coup, backed by Roh and other key generals.

"Chun is very disappointed in Roh," Kim said, because Roh has pressed ahead with his promise to promote reforms, including efforts to root out corruption and investigate

corrupt practices during Chun's seven years in power.

None of the investigations is now directed at Chun, although his wife has been mentioned as a target of future inquiry. But Roh could anger Chun and his supporters still in the military if he allows attention to focus on Chun, many analysts say.

"We feel a need to support the Roh administration," Kim said. Both Kim and Roh face problems from their opposing constituents. Roh for supporting democratic reform and Kim for appearing to concede to Roh's reforms by giving them time to work.

Danger

Kim is in little danger of being called "Sakura," or Cherry Blossom — a negative label meaning someone who floats on the strong wind — because of the many years he suffered in jail under threat of execution and exile.

But his softened tone is already bringing criticism from some of his closest ideological allies in the struggle against military rule.

Paek Ki-wan, another powerful dissident, attacked Kim indirectly Saturday during a speech before 500 students.

"It would be like postponing the surrender of a murderer you caught in your room after he killed one of your brothers," Paek said of waiting to begin a probe of the 1980 Kwangju uprising, where dissidents say Chun and others ordered soldiers to fire on civilians, killing at least 191 by official count.

Some political analysts believe Kim would be the perfect negotiator between the ruling and opposition parties, just as an anti-Soviet hard-liner like Ronald Reagan could negotiate reductions in nuclear forces without losing his political base at home.

But hard-line opposition forces see negotiations with the ruling party as negotiating with the devil and their cries of "overthrow the military dictatorship" still fill the air at nearly daily protests.

Kim showed some irritation when asked how his traditional constituents react when they see him sitting down to negotiate with the ruling party and Roh.

"They don't understand what goes on behind the scenes," he said.

Military, congress rift widens in Honduras

By David Brough

TEGUCIGALPA, (Reuters): A scandal sparked by a judge who has accused politicians of protecting drug-smugglers for bribes has provoked a growing rift between the Honduran military and congress, political analysts say.

"There is an atmosphere of suspicion and uncertainty in the country because people are not sure who is involved," said Manuel Acosta Bonilla, a senior politician in the opposition National Party.

One diplomat said the scandal had aggravated "long-standing distrust between Congress and the military."

Honduras has been the target of accusations in the US press this year that members of the military were engaged in drug-smuggling. In a scandal that erupted last week, provincial judge Miguel Angel Izaguirre said he has evidence that politicians and court officials influenced court decisions to protect drug smugglers in exchange for bribes.

Deny

The officials accused by Izaguirre, who include attorney general Ruben Zepeda, the head of congress, Carlos Montoya, and the president of the supreme court, Salmon Jimenez Castro, all deny the allegations, saying Izaguirre has no proof.

Izaguirre, who won publicity for ordering a series of arrests last year on the north coast that led to the discovery of a network of drug smugglers, made the accusations last week after the supreme court stripped him of his post as judge in the northern port city of Tela for violating judicial procedures.

Known as "Rambo" in the national press, he has posed for newspapers carrying a sub-machine-gun that he says he needs to protect himself from possible revenge by drug smugglers.

Congressional deputy Nicolas Cruz Torres, who is among those implicated by Izaguirre, told congress last Wednesday: "He (Izaguirre) is lacking the military's boots."

He said Izaguirre, backed by the military, aimed to weaken democratic institutions in Honduras.

Convictions

After denying that the military encouraged Izaguirre's accusations, armed forces spokesman Manuel Enrique Suarez Benavides on Friday released figures showing there have been no convictions for smuggling marijuana and cocaine over the past four years in Honduras despite 289 arrests by the military police.

Analysts said the armed forces released the figures to go on the offensive against politicians who have accused them of involvement in drug-smuggling.

"The figures were read out to show the armed forces have their hands clean in this matter," a diplomat said.

Acosta Bonilla told Reuters the figures implied two possibilities: Either the police had failed to provide sufficient evidence to the courts in each case, or court officials were taking bribes to free suspected drug smugglers.

Efraim Diez, a Christian Democrat deputy, said: "The action of the police has not been dealt with satisfactorily by the judicial authorities. The judicial power is subject to certain pressures that sometimes affect the independence of their decision-making." He did not elaborate.

Analysts said Honduran judges may be tempted to receive bribes because they earn low salaries and have limited prestige in Honduran society.

President Jose Azcona is already facing widespread criticism from the military for condoning the extradition of suspected drug baron Juan Ramon Matia to the United States in April, analysts said.

Uprising in West Bank and Gaza

Palestinians battle for economic independence

By John P. Tarpey

WASHINGTON: As Palestinian youths battle Israeli soldiers in the streets of West Bank and Gaza Strip, a quieter, yet equally significant struggle is evolving. From the factories of Ramallah and Nablus to the markets of Hebron and Jericho, from the camps of Gaza to the farms of the Jordan Valley, Arab residents are fighting not only for their political rights, but for economic independence as well.

Their weapons are general strikes, boycotts of Israeli goods, and withheld tax payments. Begun somewhat haphazardly five months ago, the actions are now well coordinated and strictly observed. Israeli officials are responding with like measures: restrictions on the flow of foreign funds into the occupied territories, limits on bank transfers, punishment for Palestinians with outstanding taxes, and the forced opening of shuttered shops.

Such economic actions point up an issue that will become increasingly important as efforts towards a settlement proceed. In 21 years of occupation, the Israeli and Palestinian economies have grown dependent of each other. But Israel has by far benefited the most. The West Bank and Gaza economies have grown subservient to Israel, which has exploited the territories as a cheap labour source and captive market while hindering economic development.

Concessions

Israel cites security, political, and religious concerns in explaining its desire to hold on to the territories. Equally significant, however, are its economic incentives. Any successful solution to the conflict will have to include Israeli economic concessions to the Palestinians.

The occupation has been a financial windfall to Israel, despite the costs of military and civil administration. More than a third of the West Bank and Gaza labour force — some 108,000 workers — work at menial jobs within Israel, earning about half what Israelis in the same jobs receive. Their low-cost labour is crucial to the construction and textile industries, as well as to agriculture. The government deducts about 30 percent of their wages for taxes and social security, but since they are not Israeli citizens, the Palestinians receive few benefits. Most of the deductions go directly into the national treasury in what Israeli researcher Meron Benveniste calls an "occupation tax." This tax, since 1967, has reached more than \$800 million.

Israeli officials contend that some of this money is spent on improving the "quality of life" for Palestinians in the occupied territories, and cite construction of schools, roads, hospitals, and sewage systems. But little of the money is spent on the 1.5 million Arabs in the occupied territories. Most of it — more than \$2 billion since 1967 — is geared toward Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, with a population of 655,000. In effect, Palestinians have been subsidising Israeli settlement on Arab land.

Exports

The occupation has also helped Israeli industry. The territories are Israel's second biggest export market after the United States, accounting for more than \$800 million in exports each year and providing a steady source of foreign exchange. Palestinians are a captive market, since they have limited access to imports other than through Israel. Government-subsidised goods flow in from Israel with little regulation, undercutting local production and inhibiting development.

Indeed, competition from the

occupied territories has been all but outlawed by Israel. Annual exports from the West Bank and Gaza to Israel total only about \$350 million, and most of those are low-cost items subcontracted from Israeli firms. Industrial products that compete with Israeli production are banned, as are all but a few agricultural products. Manufacturing and construction permits, as well as export licenses, are granted or denied arbitrarily. Farmers have seen their land confiscated and their water rights denied.

Confiscated

Since 1967, Israel has confiscated about 52 per cent of the land in the West Bank, usually citing security reasons. Now much of that land — more than half of the fertile Jordan Valley — is under Israeli cultivation. More than a third of available West Bank water is diverted to Israeli settlements. Arabs are usually forbidden to drill new

wells; many old ones have dried up. The Army has destroyed many Arab water pumps and bulldozed a dozen irrigation canals. Such measures have crippled much of the traditional agricultural economy of the West Bank.

At the same time, Israel has "made the desert bloom." But at what cost to the Arabs who have been farming the same land for generations? Israel has achieved an impressive economic recovery in recent years and brought rampant inflation under control, and now boasts thriving industries. But at what cost to a potentially prosperous people who have been reduced to economic serfdom?

Such costs to the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupied territories must be acknowledged and rectified. Only then will an equitable and lasting peace be possible.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Israel-Jordan bridge a shaky lifeline between two worlds

By Paul Taylor

KING HUSSEIN/ALLENBY BRIDGE, (Reuters): As the stripped-down green truck from Hebron loaded with watermelons rumbles across the Jordan River, this rickety bridge shudders and rattles.

The lifeline between Jordan and the Israeli-occupied West Bank, 30 metres (yards) of wooden slats supported by a metal frame, looks in danger of collapse with each crossing.

Yet over 20 years, millions of Palestinians and tourists and hundreds of thousands of tonnes of produce have crossed the King Hussein Bridge, as Jordan calls it, or the Allenby Bridge, as it is officially known by Israel.

In a rare arrangement between two countries nominally at war, Israel and Jordan co-operate to allow the movement of people and goods across the bridge and to prevent the passage of weapons and Palestinian militants.

Dwindled

The short, makeshift bridge, built by the Israelis shortly after the 1967 war, is the Middle East equivalent of Checkpoint Charlie at the Berlin Wall — a crossing point between two hostile worlds.

But since an Arab uprising against Israeli occupation began six months ago, the number of Palestinians allowed to cross has dwindled.

They are now allowed to bring only 400 Jordanian dinars (\$1,200) a month into the West Bank — an economic sanction

designed to starve the uprising of funds. Previously, they could bring \$5,000 undeclared and unlimited sums if declared.

The Israeli authorities have just announced that families of Palestinian prisoners arrested during the unrest will not be allowed visits from Jordan this year. No Arab of "demonstrating" (roughly 15 to 30) will be allowed to enter, Israeli occupation administrator Shmuel Goren said.

More radical calls from right-wing Israeli politicians to close the bridge completely have not been implemented.

The number of tourists entering via the bridge has also fallen sharply this year. Many have been scared off by scenes of violence between Arab protesters and Israeli troops.

Hazardous

For Palestinians, crossing the bridge can be a hazardous experience of fear and humiliation. Body searches and secret police interrogations await them at either end.

Israelis are not allowed to cross the bridge, except Muslim Arabs on organised pilgrimages to Makka.

For foreigners, the crossing is a unique travel experience.

From occupied Jerusalem, the journey begins in an Arab taxi that leaves from Damascus Gate, on the former armistice line between the walled old city, ruled by Jordan from 1948 to 1967, and occupied West Jerusalem.

The taxi plunges down the desert road from the heights of the holy city nearly 1,000 metres

(3,300 feet) above sea level, to the ancient city of Jericho sweltering in the Jordan Valley, nearly 300 metres (900 feet) below sea level.

Only specially-licensed Arab taxi drivers may enter the military area around the bridge, an arid zone guarded by barbed wire, electrified fences and troops.

Charged

On a recent visit, the driver grumbled that Israeli occupation authorities charged more than \$200 a month for the right to drive travellers to the departure terminal.

"They use the licences as a form of favouritism. If they don't like you, they don't give you a licence and you are out of a job," he complained.

Departure formalities for foreigners are brief. Israeli border officials levy a \$16 exit tax, stamp passports and direct travellers to a shuttle bus that takes them less than a kilometre (mile) from the Israeli to the Jordanian terminal.

The ride passes a huge parking lot where Israeli soldiers search empty Palestinian trucks, returning from Jordan, for weapons.

The lorries are stripped to bare essentials. There are viewing panels in the fuel and oil tanks. The driver's seat is bare metal with no cushion allowed.

Israeli security men say they have found bullets and pieces of hand grenades inside tyres and hidden in exhausts.

Crossing the Jordan itself is a split-second anti-climax. After a final passport check at a sand-bagged Israeli gun post, past a sign saying "civil administration of Judea and Samaria, Allenby Bridge," the bus trundles across the bridge.

Politics often decides the choice of a running mate

By Donald M. Rothberg

WASHINGTON, (AP): George Bush isn't likely to forget that night in July 1980, when his hopes of being the Republican vice-presidential nominee were dashed and then suddenly restored. It was a night certain to have a profound impact on how Bush goes about filling the No. 2 spot on the 1988 GOP ticket.

Michael Dukakis was only an observer of the long process that led Walter F. Mondale to the historic decision to fill out the 1984 Democratic ticket with a woman. But the impression that process created and the impact of disclosures about the dealings of Geraldine Ferraro's husband are equally certain to affect how Dukakis chooses a running mate.

The selection of a running mate is often described as the most important decision a presidential nominee makes.

And Dukakis has followed tradition by declaring that his choice will be dictated by the need to have someone qualified to serve as president if something should happen to him.

Elected

Thirteen vice-presidents eventually moved to the top office — eight of them upon the death of the president. Four were later elected presidents, though only one, Martin Van Buren, was elected "while" serving as vice-president. One vice-president, Gerald R. Ford, gained the presidency when the incumbent, Richard M. Nixon, was forced to resign.

Despite the fact that nearly one-third of presidents first served as vice-president, the No. 2 spot on the ticket historically has gone to someone chosen at the last possible moment for reasons based far more on politics than qualifications.

According to Robert F. Kennedy, Texas Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson was an accidental choice to be John F. Kennedy's running mate in 1960.

The new book, "Robert Kennedy, his own words," quotes Kennedy as saying that when his brother offered the vice-presidential nomination to Johnson "he never dreamt there was a chance in the world he would accept it."

After Johnson accepted the offer, Robert Kennedy quoted his brother as asking, "Now what do we do?"

The brothers tried to convince Johnson that putting him on the ticket would provoke a liberal revolt on the convention floor.

But Johnson said he was willing to risk such a fight.

As it turned out, Johnson's presence on the ticket was a critical factor in helping Kennedy carry southern states, particularly Texas, in his narrow victory over Nixon.

Harry Truman was little known outside his home state of Missouri when he was tapped by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944.

Roosevelt cared little about the vice-presidential nominee as he prepared to run for a fourth term although he decided well in advance of the Democratic convention to dump Henry A. Wallace, who had served four years as vice-president and wanted another four. But southerners opposed Wallace and he was not well-liked in the Senate.

Lobbying

With World War II moving to a close, Roosevelt was looking ahead to the possibility of Senate fights over peace treaties and establishment of the United Nations. Truman was popular with his Senate colleagues.

In his memoirs, Truman recalled that when he arrived in Chicago for the convention he brushed aside suggestions that he seek the vice-presidency.

But Truman's old friend from Missouri, Robert Hannegan, was Democratic Party chairman, and he was lobbying to get the Senator on the ticket.

Truman resisted when party leaders asked him to allow his name to be put forth to the convention as vice-president.

Then came a telephone call from Roosevelt. Hannegan held the phone away from his ear and Truman could hear the President say: "Bob, have you got that fellow lined up yet?"

"No, he's the contrariest Missouri mule I've ever dealt with," replied Hannegan.

"Well you tell him if he wants to break up the Democratic Party in the middle of a war, that's his responsibility," said Roosevelt, who then hung up.

"I'll have to say yes," Truman told Hannegan.

Eighty-three days after taking office as vice-president, Truman succeeded to the presidency.

Ford was the first vice-president to attain that office under the more deliberative process of the 25th amendment. Then, after he succeeded Nixon, Ford named Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York as his vice-president. Rockefeller won out over a little-known Texan named George Bush.

In 1976, Jimmy Carter settled on Minnesota Sen. Mondale

after a process in which prospective choices trooped to Plains, Georgia, to be interviewed by Carter.

Eight years later, Mondale used a similar process. The people who travelled to North Oaks, Minnesota, included three women, a black, a Hispanic and a white southern Senator.

When Ferraro, a Congresswoman from New York, was selected, feminists were ecstatic. But the benefits Mondale reaped from the bold choice of a woman quickly faded when the following weeks brought headlines with accounts of her husband's business dealings.

Bush was caught in one of the strangest sequences ever at a nomination convention.

The scene was the Joe Louis arena in Detroit on the night of July 16. For days Republicans had talked of a "dream ticket" made up of Reagan and Ford. The former president would technically be vice-president but would actually assume far greater responsibilities, becoming what some called a "president-in-waiting."

As the convention got under way that Wednesday night, Bush was waiting to deliver a unity speech before the balloting to nominate Reagan.

He recalled waiting in the wings "when a backstage worker came by, patted me on the back, and said, 'I'm sorry, Mr. Bush, really sorry. I'm pulling for you.'"

"Sorry about what?" I asked, as we shook hands.

"You mean you haven't heard? It's all over. Reagan's picked Ford as his running mate."

Bush was described as furious as he left the hall, angry that the Reagan people had not told him of the decision to choose someone else.

But the Ford option was looking less attractive. Among considerations that disturbed Reagan advisers was the fact that during the campaign, Ford would be addressed as "Mr. President," while Reagan would be referred to as "governor."

Then Ford appeared on television. He said that he would not go to Washington as "a figure-head vice-president."

Reagan was stunned to see the former president talking on National television about their private discussions. The impossibility of the projected arrangement was growing clearer.

A call went out to Bush.

"It came out of the clear blue sky," he said. The ticket was forged.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 632 — The Holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) dies.
- 1663 — British and Portuguese defeat Spaniards at Amegual.
- 1762 — Russia-Frussia alliance against Austria is concluded.
- 1867 — Prussian troops annex duchy of Holstein.
- 1883 — France, by convention of Marsa with Bey of Tunis, gains effective control of Tunisia.
- 1915 — Allied forces take Neuville in France from Germans in World War II.
- 1925 — Britain and France accept in principle Germany's proposals for security pact to guarantee Franco-German and Belgo-German boundaries.
- 1942 — Japanese submarines shell Sydney, Australia, in World War II.
- 1965 — US troops in Vietnam are authorized to engage in offensive operations.
- 1973 — Spain's Generalissimo Francisco Franco relinquishes some of his power by naming Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco as premier.
- 1976 — Large force of Syrian troops moves into Lebanon, where civil war rages.
- 1987 — Seven civilians die in clash between grenade-throwing Tamil rebels and police commandos on main street of Batticaloa in Sri Lanka.

Summit aftermath

Superpowers still far apart on START

By Bryen Brumley

MOSCOW, (AP): The Moscow summit ended with the superpowers far apart on a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and on an issue that will become more important in months to come — cuts in conventional forces in Europe.

Although hopes dimmed for a new arms treaty under President Ronald Reagan, the news was not all bad.

Both sides are still talking, rather than shouting as they did early in the Reagan administration, and they are discussing more issues more seriously than ever before.

Perhaps the most important development that the summit showed, and the one that is hardest to measure, is the growing role that domestic political developments in the Soviet Union are playing in superpower relations.

Reagan, who built his political

career as a critic of communism, was impressed by the changes in Soviet policy under Mikhail S. Gorbachev, whom he called "a serious man seeking serious reform."

"Quite possibly, we are beginning to take down the barriers of the postwar era, quite possibly we are entering a new era in history, a time of lasting change in the Soviet Union," said Reagan, who early in his term branded the Soviet Union an "evil empire."

Shift

Within hours after Reagan left Moscow on Friday, Gorbachev exhibited the harmonious summit in a political battle against domestic opponents of his campaign of "perestroika" to reform the Soviet economy.

The Kremlin leader fought off a conservative attempt at a Moscow Communist Party executive committee meeting to block prominent reformers from attending an important national party

conference starting June 28.

The change in Soviet political debate, while nowhere near as open as the battles in the West, has been accompanied by a shift in the nature of arms control negotiations. The superpowers are now discussing deep cuts in new systems, unlike agreements of the 1960s and 1970s, which limited "rather than reduced arsenals."

And the Soviets, for the first time, are willing to allow Americans to make on-site inspections to monitor compliance with the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) pact signed last December and ratified by the US Senate last month.

Reagan and Gorbachev shook hands over the INF pact at the summit, and ended five days of intensive talks by declaring some progress on two of five major obstacles to the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) to slash nuclear arsenals by 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

Reagan, who built his political

July 1988

The great flamingo caper

By Kathy Cuddihy

WITH tongue planted firmly in cheek, this writer brings you the following scoop on a current compound caper. Under cover of darkness, a person or persons unknown committed the dastardly deed of kidnapping (or birdnapping?) two large, pink, plastic flamingos from the front garden of a prominent compound resident, Ms Mimi Cousart. This might have been looked upon as a practical joke except for the dramatic and sinister overtones of the chillingly worded ransom note taped to Ms Cousart's front door.

"If you want to see your [eagle, duckling, swan, Kentucky Fried Chicken] (these four familiar strains of flamingo were subsequently crossed out when the perpetrator(s) found the correct word) flamingo ever again, please leave four bags of Oreos Chocolate Sandwich Cookies in front of the water tower by Sunday. Or else. We mean business."

Who could be capable of such cruelty? Mimi searched for clues in the ransom note. "Oreo Chocolate Sandwich Cookies?" Who on earth eats Oreos? Most self-respecting adults indulge in fancy French pastries... or dumpy donuts. Surely only kids eat Oreos. That's it! Some rotten kid has done this. But wait. Whoever did the ransom note had specifically taken the time to cut out letters to form the word "Please." No kid would think of saying "please" under normal circumstances, let alone in a kidnapping caper. It had to be a well-manufactured but unscrupulous, childish adult with unchecked cravings for Oreo cookies.

Mimi mentally reviewed the psychological profiles of her compound acquaintances. Quickly she was able to narrow the number of shady suspects down to fourteen



fishy friends. Fourteen! With only four days until the deadline, that was far too many possibilities. Mimi decided to concentrate some of her energy on trying to get the ransom note. Four bags of Oreos! Who would have supplies like that just lying around the house? Frankly, Mimi searched supermarket shelves, canvassed non-suspect friends, and even begged commissary officials. All to no avail. Everyone told her that Oreos had been unavailable for some time. No wonder the desperados were desperate. They were probably suffering withdrawal symptoms.

Then events turned particularly nasty. A distraught Mimi received a distressing photo showing a

pair of surgically-gloved hands around the nervous necks of her beloved birds. Their plastic pupils were popping in fear. Their spindly, stainless steel legs wobbled with worry. Despite the severe strain she was suffering, Ms Cousart kindly allowed me a brief interview. "This foul deed (pardon the pun) is an affront to my glorious Florida heritage. Plastic pink flamingos are the ultimate in what can be termed 'Florida tacky'. In case you don't know what 'tacky' is, it means 'tacky' as in polyester leisure suits, wearing your hair in curlers when grocery shopping, watching professional wrestling and believing it's real, wearing white go-go boots with a short calico dress while popping

gum, and collecting souvenir ashtrays.

"If anyone thinks I am going to take all this without a squawk (sorry about all these puns, but I'm in a bit of a flap — oops!) he's sadly mistaken. Push me too far and I will go for the ultimate revenge: every known suspect will find flamingos embedded in concrete in their gardens." At this point, Mimi became emotionally overwhelmed and had to discontinue the interview.

In a last-ditch effort to save her favourite fowls, Mimi placed an ad on the compound's closed circuit TV. "Reward offered for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the pink flamingo kidnappers."

With the compound in such a commotion, the perpetrator evidently felt pressured. Mysteriously, without any warning, the fake Florida flamingos reappeared in Mimi's front garden. Although cowed into reneging on his evil intentions, the offender committed a final act of spite by humbling the beleaguered birds: scarves draped their gawdy but graceful necks, vertically placed headbands wrapped their plastic faces, sunglasses shaded their sightless eyes, leg warmers disguised the wire-like thinness of their wirey legs, and polka-dot underpants hid their ruffled feathers.

Ms Cousart is, of course, wounded by this unforgivable display of shoddy insensitivity, but is nevertheless thankful that her birds are back.

In a praiseworthy show of concern for the rest of the community, Ms Cousart voiced the following warning: "It is vital that we catch this culprit. Otherwise, how can we guarantee the safety of such all-time favourites as garden gnomes, white-washed tired filled with flowers, grazing plastic reindeer, synthetic squirrels..."

By Philip Pallella

Scientific row over Turin Shroud

Shrouded in controversy

TURIN, Italy, (Reuters). An international scientific row has erupted over a Vatican-backed effort to exclude several top laboratories from tests to unravel some of the mystery of the 'Shroud of Turin', believed by some Christians to be Christ's burial cloth.

Small pieces were snipped off the edge of the controversial shroud in April and taken to three laboratories in England, the United States and Switzerland for carbon-14 tests. The tests are the first since a team of US scientists studied the sheet in 1978. They could determine if the linen is a first century burial sheet or an extraordinarily clever fraud by a medieval artist.

Scientists had been clamouring for years to carbon date the shroud. Church custodians hesitated until technological advances reduced the amount of material needed for tests.

The dating process gauges to within about 200 years the age of organic material by estimating the rate of deterioration of the radioactive carbon-14 isotope.

The yellowing shroud, measuring 4.4 metres by 1.4 metres (14.5 by 3.5 feet) shows the image of a bearded man who suffered the same types of wounds as Christ during his crucifixion.

Surrounded for centuries by passionate scientific, historical and religious debate, it is kept in a silver casket in a chapel of Turin cathedral.

When former Italian King Umberto, whose royal Savoy family had owned the shroud since 1453, died in exile in Switzerland in 1983 he bequeathed the shroud to Pope John Paul.

There is no firm historical evidence that the shroud existed before the 14th century — an age when forgery of religious relics was rife in Europe and the Holy Land.

But the shroud has baffled modern scientists, pathologists and artists, who say that if it is an authentic ancient burial sheet they do not know how the image was left on the cloth.

If it is a fake, they are amazed that a 14th-century forger could have simulated complex details such as gravity's effect on blood flows from a wound, which were thought only to have been discovered by modern forensic specialists and pathologists.

"If it turns out the shroud was made in the Middle Ages it would have to be studied with even more interest because it would be a revolution in the history of artistic technique," said Professor Luigi Gonella, Italy's leading shroud expert, in an interview with Reuters.

But since the cloth was finally snipped for dating, the milestone event has been overshadowed by controversy over the



US scientists study the sheet in 1978. New carbon-dating tests could determine if the linen is a first century burial sheet or a clever fraud by a medieval artist.

small number of laboratories chosen for the tests. The decision to carbon date the shroud was made at a 1985 meeting in Turin of representatives of seven laboratories. All of them thought they would get a piece of the shroud.

But earlier this year Turin Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero, the chief custodian of the shroud, informed four laboratories that they would not be allowed to do tests because the Vatican wanted to limit the amount of cloth cut.

Dr Henry Gove of the US University of Rochester, one of the excluded institutions, said in an interview that the rationale behind the decision was "ludicrous" and the limitation would make the results less

credible. "The amount of material in question is quite irrelevant because such a small amount is used anyway," Gove said.

The strip cut off last month and divided into three weighed about 150 milligrams and measured one centimetre (about half an inch) by seven centimetres (three inches).

Gove said the more laboratories were used the less danger there was of a so-called "outlier" result — which differed vastly from the others.

"In the three lab situation you could only take an average of three. In a seven lab situation if one result stood out you could virtually eliminate it because there has probably been a testing error or specimen

contamination," Gove said. The laboratories testing the shroud — the universities of Arizona and Oxford and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology the Zurich — were also given control specimens of cloth known to be from the first, 11th and 14th centuries, but neither they nor the shroud pieces were identified.

The specimens were provided by the British Museum, which is coordinating the results of the tests. Gove said the three laboratories would know which of the pieces they received came from the shroud because its weave was very distinct. He said the cloth should have been unravelled.

Dr Robert Outlet of the Atomic Energy Research establishment in Harwell, England, another of the excluded institutions, said limiting the number of laboratories would leave the results wide open to criticism.

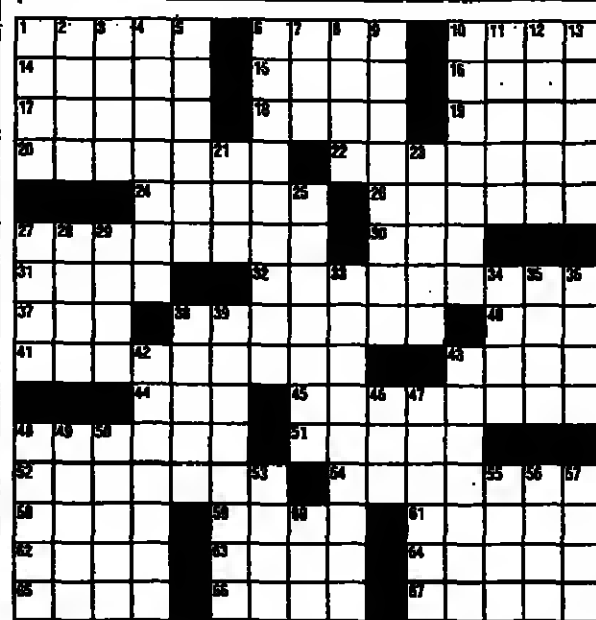
Professor Garman Harbottle of the Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, said the three laboratory choice "does not seem capable of producing a result that will meet the test of credibility and scientific rigour."

Gonella, a Turin University professor and scientific adviser to Cardinal Ballestrero, said the laboratories were chosen on the criteria of how much material they needed for their tests and the volume of carbon dating they normally handled.



An early painting of the crucifixion depicts the body of Christ being wrapped in the shroud.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- USNA et al.
 - Town in Galilea
 - Small carriage
 - Precursor of the violin
 - Field: Lat.
 - Rhine feeder
 - Disconcert
 - Take ten
 - Uris' "— 18"
 - More shadowy
 - Places of worship
 - Sprout
 - Carson's "— Spring"
 - Liberator
 - Chemical ending
 - Not the real thing: Abbr.
 - Time of youthful inexperience
 - Ship-shaped clock
 - Namesakes of Delilah's victim
 - New Guinea town
 - It's thrust on some
 - Wagon
 - Land east of Eden
 - Spotted felines
 - Mrs. — Chicago barn owner
 - Glacial ridge
- DOWN**
- City in W. Romania
 - Philippine Island
 - Down with: Fr.
 - 1957 Hepburn-Tracy movie, with "The"
 - Tit of the opera
 - to new heights
 - Generation
 - egg
 - Kind of well
 - Tasted
 - Selassie
 - "Over the Rainbow" composer
 - Dough raiser
 - Hesitant
- ACROSS**
- Amass
 - Hermes' winged sandals
 - Inner: Comb. form
 - Flying prefix
 - Sour
 - Excited
 - Premeditate
 - Biblical spy
 - Singer
 - Marriman and namesakes
 - Window part
 - "Family Ties" mom
- DOWN**
- Intellects
 - Karen of "Little House..."
 - Author
 - Cuchulain's wife
 - "— With Father"
 - Becomes limp
 - Winglike
 - Place to play
 - Decides on a time
 - Preserva
 - Comic strip
 - Cockney computers
 - Reddish-brown nocturnal cat
 - Wood sorrel
 - Buckingham — 48 vast expanse
 - Ars — vita
 - Singer — John
 - Anatomical
 - Issue
 - Depend, with "on"
 - Angers
 - French cleric
 - Jogged

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

BEAT THE BREAKS

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 10 6 3
 ♥ A 6 2
 ♦ A 10 8 4 3
 ♣ A

EAST
 ♠ J 9 8 4
 ♥ J 10 8 5 4
 ♦ Void
 ♣ K Q J 9 6 2 8 7 5 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A K 7 2
 ♥ K 3
 ♦ K 7 6 5 2
 ♣ 10 4

The bidding:
 South 1♦ West 3♣ North 4♣ East 5♣
 DBI Pass 6♥ Pass

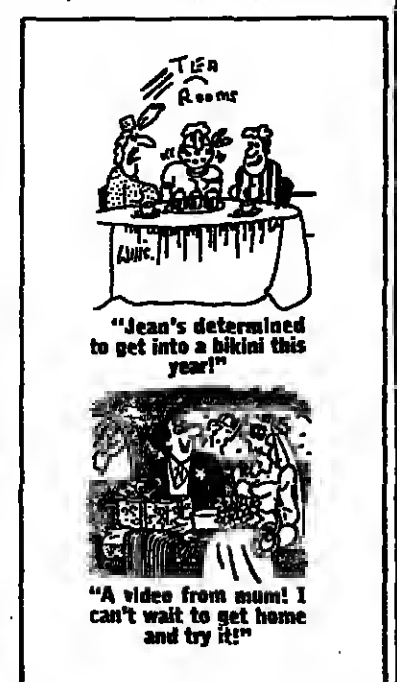
Opening lead: King of ♣. Preemptive bidding is a two-edged sword. Sometimes you will manage to jockey the opponents into a terrible contract by your tactics. Once in while, though, you will keep them out of an odds-on venture that can be defeated because of the distributional quirks of the hand.

Looking only at the North-South hands, a grand slam in diamonds is an excellent proposition. It needs only a 2-1 trump split and either a 3-2 spade division or finding West with the long spades if the jack isn't singleton. However, East-West were very busy in the auction. South

doubled five clubs to show he had two losers in the suit and wasn't keen on slam. But there was no stopping North.

After the king of clubs opening lead was taken with the ace, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and breathed a sigh of relief when East showed out. He now proceeded with the king of diamonds, then ruffed a club in dummy. After cashing just one high spade in hand, declarer took the king-ace of hearts and ruffed a heart. Next came the king of spades, and had both defenders followed, or had East been the one with spade shortness, declarer would have been able to claim.

West realized that he could not gain by ruffing the spade, so he discarded a club. He was merely delaying the inevitable. Declarer simply threw him on lead with his master trump to force a return of either a club or a heart. No matter which West produced, declarer would simply ruff in one hand while discarding his spade loser from the other, and the slam was home.



"Jean's determined to get into a bikini this year!"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The Moon's influence will enable you to be more true to yourself. You will be able to learn the lesson of experience. You should stick up for yourself. Be loyal.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will feel better than you have been of late but you must still take steps to maintain your health. Do not do anything you know you will come to regret. You should try not to run before you can walk. Be attentive.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will feel in high spirits but must still avoid doing anything reckless. You should find enough time to deal with a personal matter. Make sure others are quite clear about what you are trying to explain to them. Be frank.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

Do not allow some small obstacle to be blown out of proportion and do not be overawed by it. You should not be glib and you should not delude yourself. Make sure you get enough regular exercise. Be resilient.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Make sure you do not act contrary to your principles. You should have more faith in yourself. Do all you can to preserve and increase harmony with your partner. Be alert.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

Do not allow yourself to be distracted. You should make sure you do not permit your resolve to wane. You must not take your eyes off the road for more than a few seconds at a time. Be more approachable.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to straighten out a rather complex situation. You should not allow some small annoyance to get too much on your nerves. Make sure you do not forget some small object like an umbrella. Be cordial.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should not be too critical and you must curb a tendency to exaggerate. Some relatively small setback must not be allowed to discourage you. You should not allow others to deprive you of the initiative. Be a little more generous.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will need all your discrimination to be able to tell what is right from what is not. You will be able to make good progress, only you must avoid being extravagant. You should not place too much reliance on your intuitions. Be reasonable.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

There will be some moments of confusion but Mars' influence will show you the way to clarify your vision. You should try to find a little more time for reading and listening to music. Avoid trying to have the last word in all things. Be more amenable.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will not be in the best of moods and should try not to get in anyone's way. Try not to make a difficult situation even more complicated and intricate. Have the courage of your convictions and stick to your principles. Be fair.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will tend to be rather nervous and should do all you can to calm yourself. You will have to curb your impulses and refrain from jumping to conclusions. You will be able to set your children a good example and should do so. Be sociable.

Black power in the House of Commons

The changing face of Britain's Parliament

THE inner-city boroughs of London are filled with a potpourri of humanity — Blacks, Asians, Greeks — immigrants who have longed for a voice in Parliament, Britain's highest legislative authority, with which they could better identify both ideologically and symbolically.

They found such voices in Paul Boateng, Diane Abbott and Bernie Grant, the first Blacks ever elected to the supreme governing body of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The fact that Blacks have finally won seats in Parliament signals what many hope will be an era of progressive change in British politics; an era in which England's burgeoning immigrant population will have greater influence. Already, the nation's 2.4 million Blacks and Asians (roughly 4 per cent of the total population of 56 million) are making their political impact felt.

"What you're finding now is Blacks, Asians, Cypriots — all sorts of ethnic people — coming together and demanding an alternative to White, male-dominated politics," says Bernie Grant.

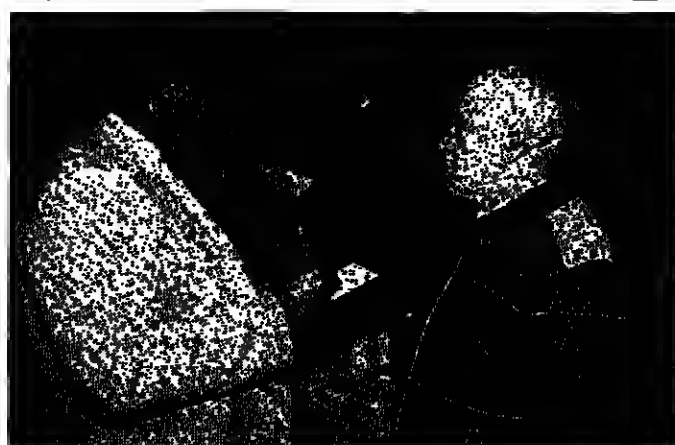
"They're saying, 'We want our representatives in government to be more reflective of our area.' And that's why you're beginning to see Black [members of Parliament]."

Spearheads

The June, 1987 election of Abbott, Boateng and Grant to the House of Commons (the lower of the two chambers of the British Parliament) also is a direct result of the lobbying effort by factions within the Labour Party — to which all three belong — for Black representation in the legislature. Blacks have run, unsuccessfully, for Parliament in the past, usually in areas that were strongholds of the Conservative Party. Forces within the Labour Party, however, demanded that Blacks be elected as Parliamentary candidates in "safe" areas — districts where the Labour vote is generally high.

The spearheads of this political movement were, for the most part, young, well-educated and ambitious Black activists — the sons and daughters of the African and Caribbean immigrants who poured into England after World War II.

Last year's general election in the UK saw four new faces in Parliament: the first blacks ever elected to the supreme legislative authority and also the first Indian in Parliament in 60 years. They hope to usher a new era in British politics, and to voice the views of Britain's burgeoning immigrant population.



Bernie Grant, a major force in Tottenham, a working-class district, listens to a constituent.

Unlike their more politically inert parents, these up-and-coming leaders immersed themselves in partisan politics. Not surprisingly, it was from their ranks that the first Black members of Parliament came.

"The second generation of Blacks [in England] isn't content to just be onlookers to politics," says Diane Abbott of herself and her peers. "We have this compelling need to be involved in the political process and to challenge the racism that riddles English society."

Despite that broad common purpose, the three freshmen Black Parliamentarians are strikingly different and hold decidedly different views about their roles in the House of Commons. Yet as three members of a legislative body of 650, they understand that they must coalesce if their voices are to be heard above the roar of their colleagues' rhetoric.

So along with Keith Vaz (the first Briton of Indian descent) they are seen as the first Black members of Parliament.

"We have a lot to learn about one another," says Paul Boateng. "And because we're in this highly visible position, the way in which we conduct ourselves is going to be very important to the larger Black community which has tremendous expectations. So there are a great many eyes on us."

For Diane Abbott, such scrutiny is nothing new. She has spent most of her life crashing through racial and sexual barriers, and she has grown accustomed to life in a goldfish bowl.

Educated at Cambridge University, where she studied history, she had embarked on an abandoned successful career in the British civil service and in television journalism before settling into politics.

At each venue she was one of few women and even fewer Blacks. But Ms Abbott, 34, chafes at the suggestion that she is somehow different from other Black people because of her success. "Interviewers are always asking me, 'What makes you different from other Black people?' as if to imply that we are somehow different. I don't accept that I'm different from thousands of other Black people. There is enormous talent, energy and potential amongst Black people and it's about time society

recognise that."

Ms Abbott's parents came to Britain from Jamaica in the early 1950s. The oldest of two children, she was, according to her mother, the first Black child born in their neighbourhood hospital. It was the first of many racial barriers that she would break.

It is perhaps because she has had to single-handedly integrate so many staid, English institutions that Ms Abbott, who is single, is viewed by some of her detractors as pushy. She has an incisive wit and a rapid-fire way of speaking. Both have held her in good stead throughout a political career that began about 10 years ago with Black community-based campaigns.

She made her first run for Parliament four years ago, but was defeated in a bitter and sometimes racially divisive campaign. Her run for the seat in Hackney North and Stoke Newington, the district she now represents, also had its share of acrimony. "I was featured in national [Conservative Party] advertisements on television as 'The unacceptable face of Black extremism in the Labour Party'."

Leftwing

She admits that she is on the left wing of the Labour Party. Her goal is not to topple the system, however. "I want to try and accelerate the progress of Black people in the political system; specifically, to raise political understanding in the Black community," she says.

"There are hundreds of other Diane Abbotts out there. I want to see a time when it would be no more of an oddity for one of them to be a member of Parliament than it is for a White Scotsman or Welshman to be one."

On that score, Paul Boateng and Diane Abbott see eye to eye. He views the recruitment of other Black members of Parliament as one of the primary responsibilities of the three Blacks sitting in the House of Commons. "We must make sure that we build on this gain," he says.

Boateng, a 36-year-old attorney, is the quintessential political animal. He was a lawyer, was Parliament and a cabinet minister in the government of the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah, the first president of the Republic of Ghana.

Born in London, Boateng

left for Ghana (then the Gold Coast) with his father and mother, a British citizen, at the age of two. His education in his father's homeland was augmented by daily dosages of political discourse. "Both of my parents were radical, non-conformist Christians," he says, "so it was in this environment of socialism, Black consciousness and radical Christianity that I grew up."

His family returned to London as political refugees in 1966 when a coup d'etat toppled the Nkrumah regime. Immediately upon his return, Boateng became active in the Labour Party.

He wears his party loyalty like a badge of honour. "I see myself playing such a role as the party calls me to play," he says of his Parliamentary responsibilities. "That means being an activist, firmly linked to the grass roots of the party, and arguing for a socialist alternative that always links the party to the community."

Office

He first sought elective office in 1981, when he became the second Black councillor on London's now disbanded citywide government, the Greater London Council. He first ran for Parliament in 1983 in a die-hard Conservative constituency, Brent South, the working class area of London he now represents, is dominated by staunch Labour voters.

It was as a lawyer that Boateng first made his name in the Labour Party. A partner in one of Britain's leading civil rights law firms, he has participated in many major civil liberties trials.

Married with five children, his home is as dominated by politics as was his parents'. His wife, Janet, a native of Barbados, is a social worker and has served as a borough councillor. "We are used to the knocks and shocks of party politics," Boateng says of he and his politically active wife.



Not-so-common faces in the House of Commons: among the new members elected to the UK legislature are three blacks: Paul Boateng, Bernie Grant, Diane Abbott and Keith Vaz (second right) who is of Indian descent.

He does not, however, intend to sit quietly in the party now that he has made it to Parliament. "I'm seeking a safe and secure billet," he says. "I'm in Parliament because I see my party as a vehicle for change, a vehicle for social and economic justice in this country. And the moment I feel that Parliament and the Labour Party are not effective vehicles, then I will leave them."

Bernie Grant is the most unpolitical-like of the three. Grant, 44, was virtually drafted into elective politics after years as a grass-roots organizer for a series of anti-racist and anti-fascist campaigns begun in the late 1970s.

A native of Georgetown, Guyana, Grant emigrated to Britain in 1963 as an engineering student. He left his studies at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh because the university only arranged scholarships for White students to study mining engineering in South Africa.

He went to work for the British postal service and eventually, became involved in the trade union movement.

By leading a campaign against the National Front, a White supremacist organisation, he became a national celebrity and a symbol of Black radicalism to Whites outside of his working class borough.



The son of a diplomat, Paul Boateng and wife with their five children.

The White press depicted him as a violent and dangerous extremist. Yet, in his borough, his political star continued to rise. "I'm beginning to believe that no press is bad press," he says, "because the more vicious things they wrote about me, the more my constituents seemed to want me."

He was urged to join the Haringey borough council. In 1985, friends convinced him to run for leader of the council. He won, and was simultaneously selected as a Parliamentary candidate for the Tottenham constituency. It was a choice that surprised even him. "I've never been very ambitious as far as running for Parliament

was concerned," he says. "I was quite happy doing what I was doing. But a group of people came along and said, 'We need a Black MP and we think you're the one.' So I said O.K. You have to do whatever is necessary."

His contest for the Tottenham seat was perhaps the most racially divisive. The conservatives harked back to his activist days, branding him a violent radical. Grant countered the attacks by emphasizing his concerns for the issues that affect the constituency most — adequate housing, unemployment, care for the elderly. Both he and his pitch won.

Courtesy: Ebony.

By Harihar Krishnan

DALLAS (UPI) — The Maharaja of Jaipur was named after the gushers of Champagne uncorked at his birth filled an Olympic-sized pool at his ancient family estate, the Rambagh palace.

Rumours still circulate about Jaipur's hoards of emeralds, rubies, diamonds and gold secreted in caverns and guarded by deadly serpents, the location of which are known only to the royal family. But rumours are not fact, and the fact is the maharajah is now only a citizen of India. And the estates and most of the mystique have long since vanished, a victim of India's entry into the modern age.

Only the memories of the ancient glory remain. The sense of loss is restrained but comes through when a sensitive royal nerve is touched.

Not all the princes of India were parasites. That impression has stayed but it is so wrong. The point is there was always accountability with our power. Unfortunately, you don't see that these days in India.

At 57, Sawai Bhawani Singh has graciously accepted his role. No longer is he the heir to the fabulously rich house of Jaipur that might have been his if the country had continued as a hodgepodge of 500 princely states under the patronage of the British Raj.

But the years since India's independence in 1947 have not dulled his sense of royal mission rooted in the Rajput tradition of chivalry, valour and sacrifice.

"We are Rajputs, we have always taken care of our people. That's our history, we don't forget that. We still take care of our old pensioners, can't forsake them," said the former maharajah as he and his ilk are called in modern India.

The tall, trim, athletic frame that used to terrorize opponents on the field of polo — known in India as the king of



One of the Maharaja of Jaipur's palaces which has been converted into a hotel.

A maharaja moves with the times

sports and the sport of the kings — is gone. In its place is a portly figure and a pouty face, the result of a recent mild stroke. But the voice is firm and very British, acquired from years of training in the best private schools of India and Britain.

Still quite at ease at being addressed as "your highness," the maharajah freely admits the fate that befell the princes was partly their own making.

"We had to move with the times but we didn't. We also were not united. That is the curse of our history. Anyway, that is past."

The maharajah, accompanied by his maharani and only daughter, 17-year-old princess Diya, were in Dallas recently as members of an Indian delegation to help launch the "Expedition: India's sales promotion of JC Penney."

Singh is the direct descendant of one of the oldest royal families in the world, whose ancestors ruled Jaipur, known as the pink city for its red sandstone buildings. The city is in the western desert state of Rajasthan. The royal lineage, that officially ended with his father, who died on a polo ground in England in 1974, goes back more than 1,000 years.

For centuries, India's maharajahs were great lords, dukes and barons, running autonomous fiefdoms, some as decadent and as wealthy as any in Western Europe. Under the British Raj, the princes were allowed to rule as they pleased so long as they did not interfere with the administration of their colonial masters.

Jaipur's rulers were largely benevolent, charitable and civic minded. The hospitals, cultural centres and art museums, schools and colleges that Singh's forefathers built rank among the finest in India.

Guaranteed

In return, the princes were guaranteed a fixed royalty for life, known as the privy purse, by the new Indian government. Singh's father, in keeping with his rank, was promised a sum of about \$140,000 annually in today's exchange rates.

Singh's own privy purse, after his father, was to be about \$80,000. But in the early 1970s, the late prime minister Indira Gandhi's Congress party abolished the privy purse, a ruling later upheld by the Supreme Court over the bitter objections of the former princes.

Singh's own career by then had turned to the Indian Army

where he rose to the rank of a colonel after serving as adjutant of the president's elite bodyguard and seeing action in the wars against China and Pakistan. His Army service earned him the "Mahavir Chakra," the nation's second highest gallantry award.

The abolition of the privy purse did not personally affect the Maharajah but his sympathy is with the other former princes who continue to feel betrayed by the Indian government.

"My father voluntarily gave up his possessions, which is easily forgotten. What the government did was morally wrong. They went back on their written agreement. Some of the former princes are desperately poor today and they need that privy purse."

Singh's sprawling Rambagh palace has been converted into a luxury five-star hotel and has become a major tourist attraction. The maharajah promotes the facility and doesn't find it demeaning.

"This is happening all over the world. Look at so many palaces and castles in Europe that have been converted into hotels. The old nobility everywhere is having to move with the times. I am no exception."



Diane Abbott, the first black woman to serve in the House of Commons, stands in front of the houses of Parliament. Ms Abbott is a history major from Cambridge University.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

AGE A PRIME CONSIDERATION IN RECEIVING FLU SHOT

QUESTION: Recently I took my mother to her doctor for a checkup. He told her that it was important for her to receive a flu shot. I asked him if I also should get one and he told me that it wasn't necessary. I am curious why it was only important for my mother to get the shot and not for me.

ANSWER: Influenza is a coldlike illness that is caused by the influenza virus. The "flu" can range from a mild cold to a severe pneumonia with a very high death rate. The chances of the illness becoming truly severe depend on many factors but the most important of which is the presence of other medical problems. Age is another important consideration. Young children and the elderly are more susceptible to the complications of the flu. Other people at increased risk of complications of this infection include sufferers with lung disease (like emphysema, asthma or chronic bronchitis), heart disease, diabetes, chronic low blood counts, those in nursing homes or any person older than 65. People who live with those individuals who are at risk probably should have the vaccination as well. A primary concern of physicians is the prevention of the sometimes-fatal complications of this often mild disease.

Although the risk from the vaccination itself is minimal, doctors shy away from administering unnecessary injections, and I believe in your case your doctor felt that your mother's age made her a candidate, but your presumed good health spared you the injection.

QUESTION: Can exercise have anything to do with breast cancer?

ANSWER: According to a University of Southern California researcher, moderate exercise during the teens may reduce a woman's risk of breast cancer. In fact, virtually one-third of a US woman's risk is determined during the early period of her reproductive history. This is because breast cancer appears to be directly related to the number of times a woman ovulates (her ovaries release an egg cell) in her lifetime.

Although at age 16 about one-fourth of a girl's menstrual periods are naturally anovulatory (they don't produce an egg cell), exercising three hours a week will definitely reduce the number of times ovulation will occur. That doesn't mean, however, that exercising five to eight hours would drop it any further.

Another risk factor for breast cancer, which may go hand in hand with a constant lack of exercise, is body weight. Women who are obese at the time their periods cease (menopause), as well as those who have experienced obesity prior to pregnancy, have higher estrogen levels, which signal a greater likelihood of developing breast or endometrial cancer.

ACROSS MY DESK: Over the past months, many of you have written requesting information about the medication for Alzheimer's Disease. You will be happy to know that a new research project involving tetrahydroaminoacridine (THA) was announced recently by Dr Robert E. Windom, Health and Human Services assistant secretary for health. The safety and efficacy of THA will be studied in 300 patients and will involve researchers across the country. The clinical trial is funded by the National Institute on Aging, the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association and the Warner-Lambert Co. If results are positive the data will be submitted to the FDA for marketing approval.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Reagan calls for removal of controls on gas prices

WASHINGTON, June 7 (Reuters). President Ronald Reagan said here yesterday that he favoured removing all remaining controls on prices of natural gas.

"Congress should remove the controls as soon as possible," he told the world gas conference of the International Gas Union.

Higher natural gas prices were bound to encourage more exploration for and production of gas, the President said.

Deregulation of natural gas prices began in 1985, but much of the US older supplies of gas remained under price controls, limiting producers' profit and resulting in the gas industry suffering from low prices.

According to Reagan, the US could significantly reduce dependence on foreign oil by making greater use of its natural gas reserves.

US productivity up

WASHINGTON, June 7 (Reuters). Productivity of American industry increased at a revised annual rate of 0.6 per cent in the first three months of this year, the Labour Department said yesterday.

Previously, the Department had said productivity, a key measure of US economic efficiency, had moved ahead by 0.9 per cent in the period.

Revisions

The Department said the revisions often makes to reflect additional information were larger than usual because of changes in the Gross National Product measures.

The first quarter revision was for the non-farm sector, which includes employees, proprietors and unpaid family workers.

During the fourth quarter of last year, productivity declined 1.0 per cent.

Hourly compensation of workers in the non-farm sector rose by 3.4 per cent in the first quarter, but when inflation was taken into account, compensation was unchanged.

Housing boom and rise in government spending coming to an end

Japan's economic growth slows dramatically

TOKYO, June 7 (Reuters). Japan's economic growth is slowing dramatically, but the expansion still looks strong enough to continue into next year, government and private economists said today.

After rising at a heady pace of around 10 per cent in the first quarter, growth looks set to slow to well under half that level in the current three months, they said.

Negative

"We might even have a quarter of negative growth, or growth close to zero (on a quarter-on-quarter basis)," said economist David Pike of brokers UBS Phillips and Drew.

That is worrying for Japan's trade partners, who are increasingly looking to Tokyo to replace Washington as the locomotive for global economic growth.

Japan's economic growth is slowing because both the housing boom and the rapid rise in government construction spending is coming to an end, economists said.

But their place is being taken by stepped-up corporate spending on plant and equipment and by personal consumption, ensuring a continuation of the recovery into next year, they said.

The Japanese government is expected to release data sometime next week showing that the economy grew rapidly in the first three months of this year.

Rosy

That will be good news for Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who leaves for Toronto in mid-June to attend the annual economic summit of leading industrial democracies.

But while the first quarter growth figures will make rosy reading, the picture in the second quarter does not look anywhere

near as good, economists said.

One government economist said he expects quarter-on-quarter growth to slow to between 0.5 to one per cent in the current quarter, from two to 2.5 per cent in the first three months of this year. Economic growth in the fourth quarter last year was 1.7 per cent.

Upswing

But he said he was not worried, because growth in the first quarter was too rapid and might have led to inflation if that heady pace had been maintained.

"It means we don't have to worry about overheating of the economy," he said.

He and other economists said they saw no reason why the expansion could not continue into 1989, although at a slower pace.

Sometime next year, though, the current upswing could come to an end, unless the government

acts to keep it going by pumping more money into the economy.

Economists said such action could prove vital for the health of the world economy if the United States suffered a recession next year, as many here expect.

Meanwhile, in Washington, a set of figures compiled by the Central Intelligence Agency illustrates how brilliantly the economy of Japan has performed in the 1980s compared with those of the United States and Western Europe.

Outlines

In dealing with unemployment, inflation, production and foreign trade, Japan outshines the others, even successful West Germany. The yen's value has zoomed up at the same time that Japanese interest rates have floated gently down.

The CIA makes no comment on its information. Its directorate of intelligence issues a thin

pamphlet every two weeks called "Economics and Energy Indicators." It contains only bland-looking tables of figures and no analysis, but the latest issue summarises figures in the 1980s.

Unemployment

"Japanese success goes back to the end of World War II and it's due to a combination of things," commented Jeffrey J. Schott of the private Institute for International Economics.

"There's readiness to adjust to changing circumstances — they're shifting now from exports to production for home use. There's cooperative labour and management practices. And there's just hard work. They're all interrelated."

Japanese unemployment was a little above two per cent at the start of the decade. It has crept up a bit but never reached three per cent.

World Business Summary

Australian commission says Bond bids for Bell

SYDNEY, June 7 (Reuters). Australian millionaire Alan Bond has made a 2.70 dollar (\$2.1) a share bid for the Bell Group of Corporate Raider Robert Holmes A Court, Australia's Securities Commission said yesterday. Ray Schoer, executive director of the National Companies and Securities Commission, said bond had agreed to make a cash bid for all Bell Group shares except 20 per cent held by the West Australian State Government Insurance Commission (SGIC). The bid, triggered by a securities commission inquiry into Bell Group share dealings, values Holmes A Court's company at about 870 million dollars (\$700 million). Bond already owns 20 per cent of Bell Group, having paid 2.70 dollars (\$2.1) a share for the stake in April. If the latest bid is successful it will deliver to Bond control of Bell Group's prize asset, Bell Resources (BRL). Holmes A Court told shareholders at the annual meeting last Tuesday that the once formidable BRL had lost momentum and he expected to step aside. Bell Group controls 44.7 per cent of BRL and Bond has control of another 6.89 per cent through its Hong Kong listed Offshoot Bond Corp International.

First Chinese auction on antiques finds few bidders

BELJING, June 7 (AP). Beijing's first large-scale auction of antiques ended on Friday with overpriced items going once, going twice and gone back to the warehouse. Of 33 antiques valued at \$270,000 that were put on sale, only three of the cheapest items, bought by a Japanese businessman and his friends for \$2,168, attracted bids. "We'd buy if the prices were reasonable," said a Hong Kong businessman who left before the show ended. "But the prices are way too high. They don't know how to auction. They're starting far too high." More than 400 people, including about 40 foreigners, attended the auction sponsored by the Beijing Auction Market, a state-run organisation obtaining most of its goods from antique stores. The Auction Market debuted last month with a little-publicised sale of less expensive items that garnered \$27,400. Friday's auction, which the sponsors said was the capital's first large-scale official sale of antiques, attracted more attention, bringing in diplomats, foreign businessmen and their spouses looking for bargains.

Gulfamerica symposium on trade opens

Business opportunities opening up in Gulf

HOUSTON, June 7 (UPI). Commercial opportunities are opening up in the Gulf states, particularly for consumer products and services, the president of the National US-Arab Chamber of Commerce said yesterday.

Jean Abinader of the Washington-based group made the remarks in a panel discussion during the opening day of the three-day Gulfamerica symposium on trade.

Symposium

The international symposium is intended to help arrange one-on-one business meetings between Arabs and Americans. Foreign participants include representatives from Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

More than 20 trade missions between the United States and the Arab Gulf region are slated for 1988-1989, Abinader said. The driving forces in Arab states

ment, which traditionally controlled developing business activity, to the private sector.

"Business is definitely up. The opportunities are up," for American investment in Arab Gulf states, he said.

"But there's a flip side to that. Because of the decline in the

dollar, because of the collapse of the stock market in Kuwait and because of the collapse of the United States stock market, there's been a real decline in Arab investment in the United States."

United States exports to the region declined from \$12.5 billion in 1982 to \$5.5 billion in

1986. Agriculture exports account for about \$700 million annually.

The conference is sponsored by the Attiyeh Foundation, a non-profit organisation founded in 1980 by former Peace Corp volunteers to introduce Arab cultures to Americans.

Indonesian economic reforms seen as part of long-term change

JAKARTA, June 7 (Reuters). Indonesia's economic reforms are the initial stage in a long-term restructuring process, Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said today.

He told a British-Indonesian energy conference that the government aimed to make Indonesia's economy more competitive.

"The government is committed to abolishing the high cost economy so as to decrease 'red tape' and make Indonesian products more competitive in the world market," Ginanjar said in a speech to the seminar attended by Britain's Energy Minister Cecil Parkinson.

Simplification

"Since 1983 deregulation and simplification procedures have been undertaken in the financial, customs, foreign investment and other sectors, followed by measures which have removed or relaxed the quantitative controls on imports such as raw materials, intermediate inputs and use of foreign expertise," Ginanjar said.

"These reforms should be seen as the initial stage in a long term restructuring of the economy."

He said Indonesia would continue to open its economy to foreign and domestic investment "as part of its programme to increase public participation in the national development programme and to enhance economic growth and create new job opportunities."

Indonesia, the largest country in South-East Asia with a

population of 175 million people, started deregulating its highly protected economy after the oil price crash in 1986.

Jakarta has removed import restrictions, reduced tariff barriers, increased investment opportunities and encouraged the economy to become more competitive in order to boost non-oil exports and reduce its dependence on crude.

The government, worried by a growing overseas debt burden, has promised further reforms, particularly of the financial sector.

In a report on Indonesia's economy last month, the World Bank recommended that the country should further deregulate its economy and develop a stronger financial sector to help boost its export drive.

Demand

Ginanjar said, Indonesia will keep more of its oil for export and develop coal, natural gas and hydro-power to meet rising demand for electricity.

He told the opening session of an oil and gas seminar attended by more than 600 British and Indonesian businessmen that Indonesia's electricity demand was expected to double in 15 years.

Parkinson, in an address to the conference, said Britain wanted to establish much closer links with Indonesia's energy sector.

He said British technology developed in the harsh conditions of the North Sea offered Indonesia a chance to exploit offshore oil and gas resources more

cheaply, and to increase efficiency in many energy fields.

Ginanjar said the aim of Indonesia, the world's fifth most populous country with 175 million people, was to reduce the use of oil so that it could be kept to earn foreign exchange.

He said oil use would be reduced to 57.6 per cent of total energy needs by the end of 1994 from 65 per cent in 1987. Use of natural gas would be increased to 27.7 per cent from 21.8 per cent over the next five years.

Crude

"Our policy is to change the pattern of domestic energy consumption and to give priority to the development of non-exportable energy resources such as geothermal and hydro-power," Ginanjar said.

Use of Indonesia's large coal reserves would grow in importance, while oil would ultimately be reserved for export and refining capacity would be expanded.

Indonesia needs the crude as a foreign exchange earner to help repay its large foreign debts, expected by the World Bank to reach \$50 billion by the end of 1988.

Ginanjar told the conference, organised to develop ties with Britain's advanced offshore oil and gas industry, that while 14 of Indonesia's estimated 60 hydrocarbon basins were now producing oil and gas, 26 were still virtually unexplored.

Present production, excluding condensates, is 1.19 million barrels a day under its OPEC quota.

W. German utility to buy Deutsche Texaco

ESSEN, West Germany, June 7 (Reuters). West Germany's largest power company said yesterday it will buy Texaco Inc's German operations for \$1.23 billion.

Rheinisch-Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk AG (RWE) management board chairman Friedhelm Gieske told reporters that Texaco's directors and his firm had agreed on that price.

Texaco aims to sell \$5 billion of assets in a major restructuring. US investor Carl Icahn who is bidding \$14.57 billion to take over the American oil giant says he wants an even wider reorganisation of the company.

Icahn already owns nearly 15 per cent of Texaco.

Last month, Texaco confirmed that as part of its restructuring it was in talks to sell Deutsche Texaco AG, which produces oil and natural gas and has a chain of 1,903 petrol stations in West

Germany.

Texaco has said it aims to sell oil refining and marketing assets in the United States and in Europe.

Icahn, meanwhile, has said he wants to sell two key Texaco assets if he takes over the company, one of the world's biggest oil producers.

Interest

He would put the company's majority interest in Texaco Canada and its Caltex up for sale.

Texaco officials have said their plans to sell \$5 billion of assets were not made in response to Icahn's bid or to any perceived takeover threat.

The US oil giant has been reorganising under chapter XI of the US bankruptcy code since last April.

Its feud with another American oil company, Pennzoil

Co. over Texaco's 1984 acquisition of Getty Oil Co, led Texaco to file for chapter XI bankruptcy.

On April 7, Texaco paid Pennzoil Co \$3 billion to settle the longstanding dispute.

Meanwhile, the sale of Deutsche Texaco should mean a major change in the West German energy market.

RWE's Gieske estimated that the acquisition, and the merger of Deutsche Texaco with his own company's existing oil and chemicals business, would give RWE just under 14 per cent of West German oil refining capacity, or 12 million tonnes a year (240,000 barrels a day).

He said RWE was talking about the possibility of selling an interest in Deutsche Texaco to Norwegian state-owned oil company Den Norske Stats Oljeselskap A/S, a major North Sea producer.

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Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)			LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	CHG	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LIFE	308.0		1ST CHARL	12/4	13/0
ADT LTD	120.0		2ND ALLCE	705/0	705/0
ALD LYONS	422.0		A.S.ELECT	413/0	413/0
AMSTRAD	183.0		A.S.V. NEW	155/0	155/0
ARGYLL GP	185.0		AAH HLD	276/0	276/0
ASDA GP	54.84		ARLSOND	117/0	118/0
BAA	282/0		ACRE OIL	217.0	220.0
BTR	268/0		ADDISON	40/0	41/0
BAT INDS	438/0		ADVEST	352/4	355/0
BARCLAYS	405.0		ALEX WRM	178/0	178/0
BASS	802/0		ALD COLL	135/0	135/0
BEAZER	177.0		ALLD PLMT	51/0	51/0
BECHAMS	478/0		ALLIANCE	788/0	790/0
BERKSFORD	37.00		AMARI	248.0	251.0
BICC PLC	327/0		AMER TRST	122/0	122/0
BLUE ARRY	15.00		AMERSHAM	460/0	460/0
BLUE CIRC	416.0		AM LTHC	260/0	260/0
BOC GP	396.0		ANGLO O'S	204/0	204/0
BOOTS CO	217.0		APPLYARD	439/0	440/0
BPB INDS	282/0		APRICOT	100/0	101/0
BR COMM	260.0		APV CLC	112/0	112/0
BR AIRWAY	142.0		AQUAS.A.	87/0	88/0
BR AEROSP	00.95		ARAN EHT	79/0	79/0
BR GAS RG	171.0		ARCHER AJ	154/0	155/0
B.P.	265/0		ARLINGTON	205/0	206/0
S.P. NEW	70.0		ARMSTRONG	126/0	126/0
BR TELCOM	240/0		ASHLEY LA	120/0	120/0
BRITTOIL	510/0		ATWOODS	303/0	303/0
BURZL	138/0		AUS REE A	281/0	280/0
BURSAH OL	547/0		AUST REED	385/0	380/0
BURTON	227/0		B. HEWILL	166/0	166/0
CABLESWIR	355/0		BAILL SHI	85/0	85/0
CADBURYS	398/0		BAIK IRE	203/0	202/0
COATS VIT	230.0		BARKER DO	142/0	142/0
COMM INT	373.0		BARR DEV	177/0	178/0
CONS DOL	045/0		BAYNES C	26/4	27/0
COOKSONS	264/0		BEJAN GP	171/0	170/0
COURTAULD	35.00		BELMAYN	45/0	46/0
DALGETY	323.0		BELLWAY	264/0	266/0
DEE CP	186/0		BENLOX ID	59/0	59/0
DIXONS	176.0		BENTALLS	186/0	187/0
ENR CHINA	438.0		BERKELEY	340/0	342/0
ENTER OIL	447.0		BIRMING	193/0	190/0
FKI BASCK	27.21		BIRNOL OL	398/0	398/0
FERRANTI	81.0		BK OF SCO	368/0	372/0
GEN ACCIO	889.0		BLACKWOOD	53/0	53/0
GEN ELEC	145/0		BLOCK LE 2	17/6	17/4
GLAND	920/0		BLOCK LE 3	36/0	36/0
GRANADA	312/0		BOISE HAS	276/0	276/0
GLOBE	136/0		BODDINGTH	152/0	151/0
GLYMEED	442/0		BOOTH SHOP	609/0	605/0
GRAND MET	574/0		BOOKER	397/0	397/0
GUARD RTL	874/0		BORTHICK	59/0	60/0
GUN	308/0		BOATWAY	374/0	375/0
GUINNESS	335.0		BR ASSETS	65/4	65/4
HANSON	610/0		BR OREGI	147/0	148/0
HUKER SID	500/0		BR LAND	323/0	323/0
HILLSDOWN	272/0				
ICI	012/0				
INI	195/0				

World Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 300 IND	1445.1	1452.8	1444.4	1387.3
FT 500 SHR	1032.5	1032.5	1025.7	984.4
FT ALL SEC	944.69	944.69	938.84	896.75
FT GOV SEC	89.62	89.62	89.43	91.03
FT GOLD IN	234.3	234.3	232.1	302.1
FT NIMES	539.61	539.61	529.74	432.96
FT OIL	1858.41	1858.41	1848.8	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	129.98	129.98	128.24	115.04
FT MLD STG	106.91	106.91	105.82	90.79
FT MLD LOC	114.75	114.75	113.64	99.08

London Stock Market Report

SHARES NEAR DAY'S LOWS IN DULL LONDON AFTERNOON. LONDON, JUNE 7, REUTER - SHARES DRIFTED DOWN TO TRADE CLOSE TO THEIR LOWS IN SLUGGISH AFTERNOON BUSINESS AFTER AN EARLY RETREAT ON WALL STREET TODAY, DEALERS SAID. ST 1421 GHT THE FTSE 100 WAS DOWN 12.9 TO 1,819.8, AFTER THE DAY'S LOW OF 1,815.4. PRICES HAD RISEN EARLY ON, EXTENDING MONDAY'S LATE RALLY. THE FTSE 100 ROSE TO THE DAY'S HIGH OF 1,839.9 WITHIN MINUTES OF THE OPENING. DEALERS SAID IT WAS NOTeworthy THAT THE FTSE 100 SEEMED TO BE FINDING UPSIDE RESISTANCE AT THE 1,840 LEVEL. DEALERS REPORTED A COUPLE OF PROGRAMMED TRADES TODAY WHICH THEY SUGGESTED MIGHT HAVE REINFORCED THE DOWNWARD TREND, ENDING THE RUN OF FIVE CONSECUTIVE FIVE GAINS SINCE EARLY LAST WEEK. ONE DEALER REMARKED "WE'D HEARD OF A COUPLE OF MODEST SELL PROGRAMS AROUND MID-MORNING WHICH WERE ENOUGH TO BRING OTHER SELLERS OUT." OTHER DEALERS REPORTED TWO WAY PROGRAMME TRADING BUT SAID SELLING SENTIMENT DOMINATED THE LITEN MARKET. "IT LOOKED LIKE A FAIRLY ROUTINE PORTFOLIO ADJUSTMENT BUT THE MARKET WAS LOOKING FOR A REASON TO SELL AFTER ITS NEAR 50 POINT RUN UP SINCE LAST WEEK," ANOTHER TRADER SAID. WORRIED ABOUT U.S. INFLATION AFTER FURTHER RISES IN COMMODITY PRICES, AND HIGHER U.S. INTEREST RATES ARE HITTING SENTIMENT. HIGHER INTEREST RATES COULD HIT WALL STREET, WITH A KNOCK-ON EFFECT ON WORLD STOCK MARKETS, DEALERS SAID.

London Gold

LONDON, JUNE 7, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CLOSED 60 CENTS EASIER AT 463.00/463.50 DLRs AN OUNCE AFTER LARGELY TRACKING SILVER PRICES IN FAIRLY THIN CONDITIONS. DEALERS SAID SILVER IN TURN HAD BEEN HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY PRICE MOVEMENTS IN CBOT SOYBEANS, WHICH INITIALLY OPENED WITH SMALLER THAN EXPECTED GAINS THEN SUFFERED A SELL-OFF BEFORE STARTING TO MOVE HIGHER AGAIN. GOLD TENDED TO LAG SLIGHTLY BEHIND SILVER AND WAS LESS VOLATILE. IT HAD OPENED HIGHERLY LOWER AT 463.50/464.00 DLRs AND EXTENDED LOSSES SLIGHTLY TO FIX AT 463.40 IN THE MORNING BEFORE BOUNCING BACK TO AN AFTERNOON SETTING OF 464.40.

London Money Market

LONDON, JUNE 7, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES ENDED EASIER ACROSS THE BOARD AS BOTH THE MARKET AND STERLING BEARS SEEMED TO HAVE SETTLED FOR YESTERDAY'S 1/2 POINT RISE IN BASE RATES TO 8-1/2 PCT AS ENOUGH FOR THE MOMENT. THE KEY THREE MONTH STERLING INTERBANK RATE ENDED 3/16 POINT DOWN AT 8-3/4 5/8 WHILE THE POUND STOOD TWO BASIS POINTS HIGHER ON ITS TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX AT 76.5. HOWEVER, DEALERS SAID THE RECENT EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS HAD LEFT THE MARKET FEELING NERVOUS AND UNSURE ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS ON RATES. "NOBODY'S QUITE SURE WHERE WE GO FROM HERE, SO THEY'VE BEEN STEERING CLEAR ALL DAY," SAID ONE.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
1.8115/25	1.8125/35	1.7130/35	5.7885/20	NOON
1.7078/7158	3.095/109	10.4765/4875	29.505/665	FIX
1.7865/7985	10.493/511	337.68/8.32		FIX
1.4255/4265	2.5825/5855	85.24/35	24.64	1300
1.9240	3.4665	112.29	33.23	FIX
1.21105	6.67963	2.07478	7.01321	CLSE
1.35932	0.754130	2.33898	7.90608	CLSE
125.65/75	227.65/96			NOON
SDR RATE	06/06/88	OTHERS	07/06/1988	

Morgan Stanley International Indices		
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2
AUSTRALIA	315.9	313.0
AUSTRIA	201.8	202.3
BELGIUM	372.0	367.9
CANADA	364.0	362.1
DENMARK	411.0	410.9
FRANCE	352.8	348.3
GERMANY	171.8	171.3
HONG KONG	1883.0	1858.1
FINLAND	121.2	120.1
ITALY	379.4	380.1
JAPAN	1271.4	1259.6
NETHERLANDS	244.4	244.6
NEW ZEAL	98.3	98.3
NORWAY	484.7	478.2
SPAIN	591.5	584.0
SPAIN	265.4	261.5
SWEDEN	924.3	919.8
SWITZ	154.1	152.4
U.K.	548.6	544.6
U.S.A.	245.4	245.1
WORLD	456.4	451.7
E.A.F.E.	868.3	862.2

Morgan Stanley International Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	315.9	313.0	278.4	259.3
AUSTRIA	201.8	202.3	203.8	215.4
BELGIUM	372.0	367.9	365.7	260.2
CANADA	364.0	362.1	363.4	350.7
DENMARK	411.0	410.9	370.3	336.6
FRANCE	352.8	348.3	290.7	288.5
GERMANY	171.8	171.3	166.3	156.6
HONG KONG	1883.0	1858.1	1823.7	1644.3
FINLAND	121.2	120.1	108.1	
ITALY	379.4	380.1	404.7	377.4
JAPAN	1271.4	1259.6	1269.3	1022.3
NETHERLANDS	244.4	244.6	238.4	215.9
NEW ZEAL	98.3	98.3	98.7	
NORWAY	484.7	478.2	475.2	392.4
SPAIN	591.5	584.0	521.9	473.1
SPAIN	265.4	261.5	247.8	209.5
SWEDEN	924.3	919.8	856.8	697.3
SWITZ	154.1	152.4	147.2	140.7
U.K.	548.6	544.6	526.3	515.7
U.S.A.	245.4	245.1	236.0	229.4
WORLD	456.4	451.7	451.2	408.0
E.A.F.E.	868.3	862.2	868.9	757.5

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NEW YORK			NEW YORK			
NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY	NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY	
A BSCCH COM	30/6	31/2	GEN DATA	53/3	53/3	
ATLANTIC R	84/7	85/0	GEN ELECT	42/2	42/2	
AAR CORP	24/6	24/4	GEN HOST	10/4	10/4	
ABBOTT LAB	44/3	44/6	GEN HOSUR	8/0	7/7	
AETNA LIFE	44/4	44/4	GEN INSTR	38/2	38/5	
ALBERTSONS	31/1	31/2	GEN NILLS	47/4	47/4	
ALCAN ALUM	30/7	30/5	GEN MOTORS	76/5	77/0	
ALCO STAND	25/0	25/0	GEN SIGNAL	52/1	52/3	
AN CYNAMID	50/5	50/4	GEN TECH	27/1	27/4	
AN ELET PW	28/4	28/5	GENUINE PA	37/5	37/6	
AN HON PRO	73/4	73/6	GEO PNT-80	0	75/4	
AN HON PRO	79/5	79/7	GEORGI-PAC	39/1	39/3	
AN STAND	77/2	77/2	GIBR FI CL	3/3	3/3	
AN STORES	51/6	51/5	GLOBAL MAR	1/0	1/0	
AN TEL-TEL	27/0	26/7	GOLDEN NUG	14/7	14/7	
AMOCO CORP	75/4	75/6	GOODRICH	51/4	51/2	
AMP INC	47/3	47/5	GOODYEAR	65/0	65/0	
AMP CORP	13/3	13/5	GOULD INC	14/6	14/6	
AMP GEN CO	45/2	45/3	GRACE IR	26/3	26/3	
AMERADA NE	27/4	27/5	GRATINER	65/0	65/0	
ANTHELE	12/7	12/7	GREYHOUND	29/6	30/0	
APACHE CO	7/6	7/6	GRUPMAN	20/5	20/6	
APACHE PET	2/7	2/6	GULF RES-C	12/2	12/2	
ARMSTRONG	39/1	39/0	GULF-WESTN	42/5	42/5	
ASHLAND OIL	69/1	69/1	HALLIBURTON	31/3	31/3	
ASIA PACIF	6/2	6/2	HALLIMOD	16/5	16/4	
ATLS CORP	36/0	36/2	HALLIMOD	28/6	28/6	
AVERT INC	22/6	23/0	HARRIS CP	28/6	28/6	
AVNET INC	24/7	24/6	HARTMAN	25/6	25/0	
AVOC PRODS	23/4	23/3	HECLA MIN	15/6	15/6	
BCE INC	30/3	30/3	HELMZ NJ	41/4	41/3	
BEVERLY	42/0	42/0	HEL CURTIS	34/0	34/0	
BETH STEEL	19/5	19/5	HELM-PAYNE	22/7	22/7	
BETH STEEL	5/1	5/0	HERCULES	46/0	46/1	
BETH STEEL	26/6	26/5	HESSCORP	0	3/7	
BETH STEEL	49/3	49/4	HESSCORP	33/6	33/4	
BETH STEEL	32/3	32/3	HILLBROOK	32/6	32/6	
BETH STEEL	34/1	34/1	HILLBROOK	92/2	92/1	
BETH STEEL	11/0	11/1	HILLBROOK	113/2	113/2	
BETH STEEL	6/5	6/4	HILLBROOK	15/7	15/6	
BETH STEEL	55/0	55/3	HILLBROOK	25/0	25/2	
BETH STEEL	44/0	44/0	HILLBROOK	25/1	25/4	
BETH STEEL	52/1	52/2	HILLBROOK	24/0	23/7	
BETH STEEL	32/3	32/4	HILLBROOK	13/4	13/4	
BETH STEEL	43/1	43/1	HILLBROOK	72/2	72/4	
BETH STEEL	30/3	30/3	HILLBROOK	37/4	37/3	
BETH STEEL	40/5	40/5	HILLBROOK	31/4	31/5	
BETH STEEL	23/0	23/1	HILLBROOK	26/2	26/1	
BETH STEEL	13/7	14/0	HILLBROOK	26/6	26/7	
BETH STEEL	10/5	10/5	HILLBROOK	114/2	114/2	
BETH STEEL	37/2	37/2	HILLBROOK	33/0	33/0	
BETH STEEL	25/2	25/0	HILLBROOK	6/7	6/7	
BETH STEEL	14/4	14/4	HILLBROOK	18/1	18/1	
BETH STEEL	26/5	26/5	HILLBROOK	31/4	31/7	
BETH STEEL	64/1	64/1	HILLBROOK	41/2	42/1	
BETH STEEL	27/5	27/5	HILLBROOK	46/1	46/3	
BETH STEEL	158/0	159/0	HILLBROOK	46/1	46/3	
BETH STEEL	47/1	47/3	HILLBROOK	31/0	31/0	
BETH STEEL	34/0	34/2	HILLBROOK	33/4	33/4	
BETH STEEL	12/2	12/2	HILLBROOK	79/1	79/3	
BETH STEEL	3/7	3/7	HILLBROOK	33/5	33/7	
BETH STEEL	28/1	28/1	HILLBROOK	17/6	17/6	
BETH STEEL	32/1	32/3	HILLBROOK	29/1	29/1	
BETH STEEL	31/3	31/3	HILLBROOK	28/2	28/2	
BETH STEEL	50/7	50/7	HILLBROOK	28/2	28/2	
BETH STEEL	22/2	22/2	HILLBROOK	81/6	81/6	
BETH STEEL	58/0	57/2	HILLBROOK	75/1	75/1	
BETH STEEL	6/1	6/1	HILLBROOK	7/2	7/2	
BETH STEEL	45/7	46/0	HILLBROOK	5/6	5/6	
BETH STEEL	24/1	24/2	HILLBROOK	44/6	44/6	
BETH STEEL	28/4	28/4	HILLBROOK	6/1	6/1	
BETH STEEL	14/5	14/5	HILLBROOK	64/1	64/1	
BETH STEEL	24/1	24/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	33/6	33/6	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	28/5	28/5	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	1/2	1/5	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	25/4	25/6	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	18/0	18/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	11/0	11/1	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	27/2	27/1	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	39/1	39/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	11	11	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	38/3	38/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	44/5	44/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	16/7	16/7	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	30/4	30/3	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	25/1	25/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	28/6	28/5	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	44/6	44/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	38/0	38/1	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	*05	*05	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	32/2	32/3	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4	
BETH STEEL	CONTR DATA	26/4	26/3	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	COOPER T-R	0	0	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	COOPER CON	10/7	11/0	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	CORNING GL	53/6	54/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	CRANE	30/3	30/3	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	CRAY RES	81/0	81/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	CULINET	7/7	7/6	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DANIEL IND	0	0	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DATA GEN	21/5	21/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DATAPPOINT	5/4	5/5	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DAYTON HUB	33/1	33/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DEERE CO	108/1	108/0	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DEERE CO	49/6	49/6	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DELTA AIR	49/7	50/1	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DIAMOND SH	14/5	14/3	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DIEMOLD	39/5	39/4	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
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BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
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BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
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BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2	HILLBROOK	71/4	71/4
BETH STEEL	DISCA	3/2	3/2			

Iraq and UAE sign trade agreement

ABU DHABI, June 7. (OPECNA): Iraq and the UAE have agreed to develop cooperation in economic, trade, cultural, technical and information fields.

The agreement followed meetings of the joint Iraqi-UAE commission led by Iraqi Finance Minister Hikmat Omar Al Hadithi and the UAE Minister of Economy and Trade Saif Al Jarwan.

The two sides also agreed to encourage the holding of fairs, exchange of visits by trade delegations and removal of all obstacles to smooth trade.

They also expressed relief at the trade balance between the two countries standing at \$32.70 million worth of UAE exports to Iraq, with an equal amount of Iraqi exports to UAE.

Both sides stressed the need for boosting industrial cooperation and considering the possibility of exporting aluminium from Abu Dhabi plant to Iraq.

The accord also covered agriculture, education and tourism.

"The UAE is determined to enhance cooperation with Iraq and other Arab states as a step towards achieving economic integration," Al Jarwan said after the meeting.

Al Hadithi said the agreement would serve the interests of a balanced cooperation between the two countries, adding that Iraq was ready to further develop the scope of such relations.

Concessions given to attract foreign investment

India relaxes tax laws to boost industry

By Fathima Ahmed

INDIA has declared a tax holiday under special concessions given for export-oriented industries, according to H.P. Raina, a leading tax consultant. Raina is in Kuwait as part of the SBI Cap team to promote industrial investment.

"Tax laws are not as draconian as they are made out to be," asserts Raina. He says that the government has been "responsive" to public opinion and has simplified laws for NRIs and persons of Indian origin in individual or joint ventures.

Export-oriented units, under a recently amended law, are "free from tax to the extent of profits derived from exports."

Export subsidies and other benefits received from the government are considered to be a part of the export earnings, and would be tax free, he explained. Indian laws, in recent months, have been geared to boost industrial investment for setting up new units, particularly to attract foreign exchange.

Laws have been relaxed, and simplified, to allow depreciation on the actual cost of factory building, furniture and fixtures.

plant and machinery. "Depreciation is allowed on the gross block of such (mentioned above) assets," said Raina.

The government is trying to woo investors, particularly those buying plant or machinery by giving tax concessions. For instance, plant and machinery, including cars, are entitled to depreciation at the rate of 33.33 per cent on the writedown value. Depreciation at the rate of 50 per cent is given for such items as lorries, air and water pollution equipment, energy saving devices get depreciation at the rate of 100 per cent.

The investment climate was never better for industrialists, claims Raina. "An investment allowance has been reintroduced for plant and machinery at the rate of 25 per cent of its actual cost," he explains.

Example: An entrepreneur, setting up an industry, is entitled to deduction, through depreciation and investment allowance from his taxable profits, an amount aggregating to 125 per cent of the cost of assets.

About 25 per cent of the taxable profits of every new industry are exempt from tax for a period of eight years, beginning from



Raina the year the unit starts commercial production.

If an industry buys new machinery, it gets extra concessions by having to pay tax only on 80 per cent of the taxable profits.

"A profitable industry enjoys 20 per cent tax exemption on its taxable profits if it acquires new plant or machinery," Raina said.

Industries set up in designated backward areas get tax exemption on taxable profits for a period of 10 years.

"Industries in backward areas

are eligible for exemption of 45 per cent for the first eight years and 20 per cent for the next two years," Raina said. This exemption is applicable from the time commercial production begins.

Raina advises prospective investors to buy Non-Resident Indian Bonds, which were recently floated, as they are completely tax free.

The NRI Bonds, issued by the government, are cashed seven years after an Indian returns to India at the prevailing rate of exchange. "There is a possibility that you may get higher returns," he claims.

The government, which recently announced the issue of the bonds has not fixed the rate of interest. Raina expects to be higher on normal foreign currency accounts, which pay 9.5 per cent. Drought Relief Bonds, recently issued, are also tax free, irrespective of the amount invested.

Debentures: On bank deposits and debentures, Indians have to pay 20 per cent tax on total value, irrespective of the amount invested by them. Investing in shares may not be profitable in the long run, Raina says. "If you sell shares, you are liable to pay capital gains

tax of 20 per cent," he explained. Raina adds that if Indians have deposited large sums in banks back home, and are planning to return, they must withdraw their deposits and re-invest carefully.

If someone returns to India, but has not received his dues from his employer overseas, he can have the money sent to him by a banker or an agent. "Dues from an ex-employer remitted to India are not liable to tax," he said.

Conception: Foreign currency NRI accounts are believed of having a dollar or sterling account, he said, is that though the currency is exchanged at the prevailing rate of exchange, the amount is non-repatriable.

NRI external accounts, as is well-known, are tax free.

Raina believes that the best form of investment, in the present economic climate, is industry. "In industry, if an entrepreneur takes advantage of all the special concessions now being given by the government, he would be much better off financially." His advice is: nurture an industrial project from conception to implementation.

OAPEC members losing \$18 billion annually

THE Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said yesterday that its members are losing \$18 billion annually as a result of the decline in the value of the dollar.

The group called for the replacement of the US dollar with a basket of currencies in calculating oil prices.

"Today, as the dollar's exchange rates approach their trough, we reiterate our call to consider adopting an alternative system for pricing oil, starting with the idea of a basket of currencies," OAPEC said in the editorial of the June issue of its monthly bulletin.

"In this way, we may be able to protect our economies from fluctuations in world financial markets, because these only exacerbate the problem already facing us as a result of fluctuating oil prices," it said.

The Kuwait-based organisation groups together Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE, Iraq, Algeria and Libya, along with Syria, Bahrain and Tunisia. The first seven double as members of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The editorial said that if the Arab oil-exporting countries had

taken measures to protect their economies from such exchange fluctuations, the drop in the value of the dollar would not have been so detrimental to their economies.

Decline: OAPEC calculated that the decline of the dollar resulted in a loss to its members of \$5 per barrel, or \$50 million per day.

"In other words, the annual loss resulting from the dollar's decline exceeds the national income of many Arab countries, (at least \$18 billion per annum)," the OAPEC editorial said.

World Bank loan

WASHINGTON, June 7. (Reuters): The World Bank yesterday announced a \$45 million loan to the Philippines to improve the operation and maintenance of the country's national irrigation system.

It said the loan would spur agricultural production, raise farmers' income, directly benefit about 430,000 farm families and move the country towards food self-sufficiency.

The loan is for 20 years, including five years of grace, with a variable interest rate, now at 7.72 per cent, linked to the cost of the Bank's borrowings.

Gold little changed

Dollar slightly down on European exchanges

LONDON, June 7. (Agencies): The US dollar was slightly down today on European foreign exchanges, while gold was little changed.

Dealers said trading was quiet and they expected little movement by the dollar before next Tuesday's announcement of fresh US trade data.

In Tokyo, where trading ends as Europe's business day begins, the dollar fell 0.30 yen to a closing 125.77 yen. In late London trading it was quoted at 125.80 yen.

Strengthened: The British pound strengthened following yesterday's increase of half a percentage point in British interest rates. In London, sterling gained just over a penny to trade at \$1.8130 compared with \$1.8025 late yesterday.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late yesterday: — 1.7143 West German marks, down from 1.7190; — 1.4277 Swiss francs, down from 1.4357; — 5.7910 French francs, down from 5.8122; — 1.9245 Dutch guilders, down from 1.9303; — 1.273.10 Italian lire, down from 1.277.65; — 1.2318 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2324.

The price of gold eased slightly today but the inflation fears which had sent it soaring last week were not calmed as grain prices around the world jumped.

In London, wheat, barley and soybean meal prices rose. Yesterday, for the first time in a decade, all soybean, soyoil, corn, wheat and oats contracts traded in the Chicago Board of Trade rose by the maximum allowed by that commodity exchange.

A sustained dry spell is threatening newly planted crops in the US Midwest and Canadian Prairie provinces, and some investors fear food prices will keep rising enough to rekindle inflation, dealers said.

Although gold eased \$1.15 to be fixed in London today at \$463.40 an ounce, dealers said underlying demand was good.

They said buyers seemed to be holding off in the hopes that gold would slip further. Despite today's decline, the price of bullion has not been so high since January.

Many investors feel gold holds its value better than do cash or securities when inflation rises.

Share prices, hardly moved, London's FTSE index of 100 blue chip British shares opened seven points higher at 1,839.7 and then eased back to just over 1,827 by late morning.

Dropped: In Japan, share prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange dropped today after a two-day winning streak as profit-taking and concern over recent advances took hold, brokers said.

Traded volume was a hefty 2.2 billion shares against 1.6 billion yesterday.

The Nikkei Index closed down 28.92 points, or 0.1 per cent, at 27,967.32. Yesterday, the index gained 89.76 to a record closing 27,996.24.

"The market is awash with money," said a manager at Tachibana Securities. "Individuals are buying and the institutional investors are dealing."

But he said the index's rise from 27,223 points yesterday last week had kindled some caution which pushed the index lower in afternoon trade.

Hunting: Powerful institutions and brokerages hunting short-term gains dealt heartily, mainly in steel and shipbuilding stocks. But real buying incentives were scarce.

The US dollar closed mixed in Tokyo in dull trading as the currency's hushhush outlook evaporated on fears of Central Bank intervention, dealers said.

The US currency closed at 125.77 yen and 1.7095/05 marks against 125.75 yen and 1.7130/40 marks in New York.

Wall Street managed a less-than-hearty rise yesterday but the dollar and bonds closer lower, unable to build on last week's gains.

The Dow Jones Industrial average, fresh from last week's record 114-point advance, finished ahead by a bare 3.91 points at 2,075.2.

Gold was trading in Tokyo at around \$463.00 per ounce by late

afternoon, almost unchanged on New York's yesterday close of \$463.05.

Meanwhile, the currency dealers said that if the mark starts looking like a favoured currency — at least until a new set of US trade figures is reported on June 14 — a key reason would be moves by the Bundesbank, West Germany's central bank, to prop up its value.

The Bundesbank reported that its reserves dropped by about \$2 billion in the last week of May as it sold dollars. Over the weekend, Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl said the Central Bank did not want the mark to weaken.

But prospects for a stronger mark unsettled West German stock markets, where investors worry that a firm currency costs companies badly needed export sales.

Frankfurt's Boersen-Zeitung index opened 2.59 points lower at 303.04. In Amsterdam, the CBS-All Share Index slipped half a point by mid-morning to 86.5. Swiss shares also eased.

But the Paris Bourse Indicator edged 0.39 per cent higher. Investors are still encouraged by Sunday's first round vote in the French general election, when the Socialist Party failed to win a landslide victory.

Sydney's All Ordinaries Index slipped 4.3 points to 1,595.4 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index eased 3.36 points to 2,587.03.

Emphasis on reasonable prices

Bulgaria tries to attract tourists

By Jadranka Porter

BULGARIA has launched a campaign to attract tourists from the Gulf with the emphasis on family holidays and reasonable prices.

Promoting the new package holidays which include visits to mountain and seaside resorts is ABATTCO — Arab Bulgarian Travel and Trading Company, a joint venture set up in 1983. It originally concentrated on Kuwait market only but since 1986 ABATTCO has branched out to Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Stressed:

Stefan Tonchev, the director of ABATTCO in Kuwait stressed Bulgaria's efforts to create an Arab setting in some of the country's resorts to attract a greater number of Arab tourists who comprise about eight per cent of the seven million tourists visiting Bulgaria annually.

Three thousand tourists from the Gulf, mainly from Kuwait, visited Bulgaria last year, a figure that Bulgarian tourist authorities would like to see grow.

This is why they have renovated a holiday village Druzha near Varna on the Black Sea adapting it to the needs of Arab tourists.

The settlement consists of 41 two bedroom villas and is designed for family holidays with facilities such as restaurants, evening entertainment, tennis



Nenkov, Spasov (centre) and Tonchev address a news conference.

courts, children's playground and a clinic, according to Georgi Indjov, the director of the complex currently visiting Kuwait.

Zdravko Spasov, chairman of Balkantourist, yesterday told a news conference in Kuwait that Bulgaria is not in the same category with the most popular European tourist destinations but to compensate for any deficiencies it has maintained last year's prices that were already at the lower end of the international price scale.

"Tourism is comparatively a new industry in Bulgaria. Our pricing policy will depend on what our competitors do," said

Spasov. Tonchev said prices for half board, range from \$25 to \$70. Villas at Druzha can be rented at \$200 per night for the first two weeks with 25 per cent discount for a six-week stay.

Attract: In a bid to attract foreign visitors, Bulgaria recently introduced a special rate of exchange for tourists doubling the amount of local currency one can get for convertible currency.

Thus a visitor can get 1.68 lev for a dollar while for business purposes the rate remains at 0.84 lev per dollar, said Ludmila Nenkov of Balkantourist.

US expert proposes world currency

NEW YORK, June 7. (AP): A world currency must be created under the auspices of the International Monetary Fund, the Bank for International Settlements and the World Bank, says US investment adviser John Winthrop Wright.

The problem now, according to Wright, is that banks around the world can create dollars simply by making loans denominated in the US currency.

No restrictions: They need no permission from the United States. Unlike US banks, which are regulated by the Federal Reserve — the American central bank — these banks are under no restrictions from US monetary authorities.

US banks can create dollars too, but the Federal Reserve limits the amount they can create by raising or lowering reserve requirements. That is, they must have a certain amount of dollar deposits to back up their loans.

Sometimes the Fed pursues a tighter money policy by requiring a higher ratio of deposits to loans. At other times it follows an easier money policy, allowing a greater number of dollars to be created through loans.

Impact: But the Fed does little or nothing to restrict such activities by foreign banks, whose activities can have a serious, usually negative, impact on the US economy. In fact, it has already happened several times.

The situation is anarchy, says Wright, citing the imbalances in world trade and inflation rates that have developed along with the explosive growth of international trade, finance and communications.

Wright points out that there is no governing regulatory authority over foreign-exchange rates and over the amount of money and credit available to finance world trade and emerging economies.

"Incomprehensible," says Wright. A businessman as well as economist — he founded Wright Investors Service, fiduciary for

trust accounts in the billions of dollars — he has warned about the problem for years.

Nothing has been done, Wright says. He has spoken to his financial friends abroad about the situation. He has spoken to prestigious audiences, such as the Economic Club of Detroit. He has spoken to the Fed.

Almost everywhere but at the latter he has received support for his thesis that a world currency must be created.

Each nation would be sovereign of its own currency, but each nation's banks would be prohibited from making new

loans in any currency other than its own or in the world currency, to be called international currency units.

Thus, restraint could be brought to the unregulated creation of money, especially dollars, that can be so disruptive to economic stability in the form of inflation, trade imbalances and volatile exchange rates.

Great damage already has been done to the United States, Wright says.

From 1970 to 1973, Wright explains the number of dollars circulating around the world doubled.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 6/8/88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel No.
1	Odyssey-H	Alghamim	4842988
2	Tug Salvista	ISA	2441860
4	Liao Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
5	Eastern Glory	Alghamim	4842988
8	Shaan	ISA	2441860
11	Rashidiah	GH&O	4747815
6	Ibn Qutaibah	KSA	4843150
17	Mallow Everett	ISA	2441860

SHIPS EXPECTED TO SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel
6/6	Dhaula Giri	Tran. Cont	2436920
6/6	Jolly Turchese	GH & Q	4747815
6/6	Francia	Bebbebani	2412085
6/6	Macrusk Astro	Emaad	4841807

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No	Ship Name	Agent	Tel
2	Al Noor	Al Majid	2421439
6	Agia Sofia	Gh Barber	4842988
16	Al Wajba	UASC	4843150
16	B/B Najdiah	KOTC	

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel
6/6	Tug Salvista N Barge	S. Saheen	4810973
6/6	Ionian Express	Barber	4842988
7/6	Al Majed	Ma Bahar	2433881
8/6	Vevey	RSMS	2423642
8/6	Great Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
11/6	Tokyo Bridge	United	2425437
13/6	Vito	RSMS	2423642
17/6	Lelaps		
15/6	Providence Day	KMMC	2419814

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Casio introduces new copier



Hirofumi Aoki

By Lima Al Khalafawi

CASIO's sales representative Hirofumi Aoki said Kuwait last year imported KD 2 million of Casio products.

Continuing, he said, a new handy copier from Casio had been introduced in the local market. It has all the facilities such as: enlarging, reducing, copying at high speed, copies from any surface such as newspapers, articles, postcards, maps, or logos.

The new copier is compact, rechargeable and fully portable. Further, Casio introduced a new compact calculator case which holds up to 1,500 names and phone numbers.

It includes a full month calendar (Jan 1991-Dec 2099) and can recall any day's schedule from the display. The calculator includes memo and telephone functions.

Aoki claimed that Casio is one of the leading names in its field and strives to provide state-of-the-art technology at very competitive prices to its customers.

Final-hour rally pushes stock prices higher

NEW YORK, June 7. (UPI): A final-hour rally helped push stock prices higher yesterday in moderate trading, extending the gains won in last week's record advance.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which rose nearly 115 points last week, added another 3.91 to close at 2,075.21. The index was down nearly 7 points with less than an hour to the final bell.

Advances topped declines 856-626 among the 1,955 issues crossing the New York Stock Exchange tape. Volume slowed to 152,460,000 shares, compared with the 189,600,000 shares traded on Friday.

Retreated: Stocks opened mixed and the Dow then fell about 12 points before cutting that deficit in half around midday. The index then retreated again to a deficit of about 14 points before stabilising and moving toward the late-session jump.

This type of performance is a real plus," said Don R. Hays, director of investment strategy at Wheat, First Securities in Richmond, VA. "We are starting to see things lining up in gear. This is especially good when you consider that yesterday is historically one of the weaker days."

Modest: Hays said the market needed "some help from the Fed to get a good, broad rally underway," and a further easing of short-term rates would do the trick.

"Interest rates and psychology are moving this market," Hays said. "And we know the psychology has become pretty positive in the past few weeks."

Broad-market indexes also posted modest gains. The NYSE composite index rose 0.24 to 150.55. Standard and Poor's 500-stock index rose 0.60 to 267.05. The price of an average

share gained five cents.

Peter Brodie, executive vice-president of Centre Square Investment Group in Philadelphia, agreed that investors should be pleased with the activity.

"The worst thing that could have occurred would have been a runaway to the upside," Brodie said. "This rally is far from being over."

Interest rates are in the process of turning (lower)," he said, crediting the moderation in rates for part of the Dow's 115-point jump last week.

Active: "The pessimism had gotten so severe, but there was no pickup in the momentum to the downside," Brodie said. "With corporate earnings continuing to be phenomenally strong, we could see 2200 over the next three to four weeks."

On the trading floor, Allegheny Power and Light was the

most active issue, down 1/8 to 397/8. Union Electric followed, down 3/8 to 233/8. Variety was third, up 1/8 to 31/2.

Among the blue chips, IBM gained 11/8 to 1143/8. American Express was up 3/4 to 27 and Atari was off 1/4 to 27.

MacMillan Inc. jumped 31/2 to 75. The publishing company, which Saturday received a sweetened merger proposal of \$73 a share from Robert M. Bass Group Inc. said it would consider the new offer later this week.

Texaco added 7/8 to 507/8. The company said it had reached an agreement to sell its West German operations for a price in excess of \$1.2 billion.

Volume of NYSE-listed issues including trades in stocks on regional exchanges and in the over-the-counter market totalled 176,706,650 shares, compared with 212,883,430 in the previous session.

Toronto summit to focus on trade issues

TORONTO, June 7. (AP): US President Ronald Reagan's final meeting with major US trading partners, coming just two weeks after the Moscow summit, will focus on averting another stock market crash and arcane details of international trade.

Reagan will meet with leaders of six other major industrial democracies — Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan — plus the European Economic Community in the downtown convention centre of Canada's biggest city, June 19-21.

Opportunity: The economic summit will give Reagan an opportunity to brief his partners on his May 29-June 2 talks with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev. However, two of the participants, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita got an early report from the President during his London stop last week.

Toronto, hoping that a favourable impression will bolster its bid to host the 1996 Olympic Games, is busy sprucing up for an expected invasion of 1,400 summit delegates and 5,000 news media representatives.

The city has a graffiti squad scrubbing everything clean. A giant parking lot is being converted into "Summit Square" where reporters will be offered free food and drink around the clock.

To guard against terrorist attacks, 3,000 police officers will be deployed around the city and sharpshooters will be stationed on rooftops along motorcade routes to prevent anyone from getting within a bomb's throw of visiting foreign leaders.

The security operation will cost an estimated 6 million Canadian dollars (\$4.8 million).

"We are taking the precautions because of the history (of terrorist attacks) at previous summit conferences," said police Supt. Bernard Nadeau. Rockets were fired in downtown Tokyo at the 1986 economic summit and

bombs were thrown at embassies in Rome during last year's Venice summit.

Mrs Thatcher, in office since 1979, will be dean of the summiteers. This will be Reagan's eighth such summit.

Newcomers at the Toronto summit will be Takeshita and Italian Prime Minister Ciriaco de Mita. Also attending will be West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand, who will bring his new Premier, Michel Rocard.

Host Prime Minister Brian Mulroney wants the 14th economic summit — the annual parleys began in 1975 in France — to be less formal and more productive than its

Sequel to a 30-year-old classic

Return to the River Kwai

By Richard Wallace

IT'S a scene that has taken on mythical proportions in movie history: The Bridge on the River Kwai.

It conjures up images of brutal Japanese soldiers forcing starving British prisoners-of-war at bayonet point to build a railway in the tropical heat of the Thai jungle. And of Sir Alec Guinness, as the still-upper-lipped Colonel Nicholson, torn between duty to King and country and his desire to prove to the enemy the superiority of the British officer by building them a bridge better than anything constructed by the Japanese.

The Bridge on the River Kwai took £100 million at the box office, won seven Academy Awards and a knighthood for Alec Guinness. The jaunty theme tune, Colonel Bogey, became a hit record.

Now, a 30 years after it was first seen, a new generation of movie-goers will be introduced to the hell of the Death Railway and the Kwai Bridge in a new

The Bridge on the River Kwai took £100 million at the box office, won seven Oscars and a knighthood for Alec Guinness. Its jaunty theme tune is still heard today. Now 30 years later a new generation will be introduced to the Kwai Bridge in a sequel which attempts to better the original.

film which attempts the impossible: To better the original.

It is called Return from the River Kwai. It stars Edward Fox as a British Army major in a role similar to that of Guinness as Col Nicholson, and Denholm Elliott as a guerrilla warfare expert dropped behind enemy lines, mirroring Jack Hawkins' character in the first Kwai.

The Japanese commander, who must achieve his objectives no matter how many Allied POWs die, is played by Star Trekker George Takei. Takei, looking remarkably similar to the first commandant, Sessue Hayakawa, Christopher Penn, younger brother of tearaway Sean, plays a cocky, cynical American pilot.

recalling William Holden's character in the original movie.

The Bridge on the River Kwai, with its theme of heroic conflict and incredible bravery under inhuman conditions, was perhaps the finest British war picture ever made. But Return from the River Kwai is not a remake or simply a sequel. It purports to tell the real story of the British, Australian and American POWs imprisoned at a concentration camp at Tha Mahkam on the banks of the Kwai, 75 miles west of Bangkok. Here the Japanese faced their single biggest task, getting the railway across the river.

In the original film, Col Nicholson, the officer commanding the Allied prisoners, wins heroic adoration because he refuses to order his officers to do manual work alongside his men on the bridge designed to carry the notorious Death Railway.

Beaten up, tortured and left in the "oven" — a tin hut sizzling visibly in the heat — he refuses to cave in. His futile bravery commands both pity and admiration. Nicholson then determines that they should build a better bridge than the Japanese, proving Allied superiority, although paradoxically it ultimately has to be destroyed by British commandos to halt the Japanese advance.

Return from the River Kwai opens with the bridge already built. In reality it was never destroyed and still exists as a tourist attraction. Hollywood producer Sam Spiegel simply thought it would make better cinema if it was blown up. So at cost of £100,000 he had a replica constructed in Sri Lanka — and then destroyed.

Certainly Return from the River Kwai starts with an attempt to destroy the bridge and railway but it also tells the true story of how Allied POWs



Edward Fox plays Major Benford, the POW's stiff-upper-lipped commanding officer, in Return from the River Kwai.

were shipped along the railway line to Saigon, then put on board freighters bound for Japan to work as slaves in munitions factories.

Producer Kurt Unger said: "The film is based on a factual book by Clay and Joan Blair. They spent two years researching the fate of the railway survivors."

The movie traces the fate of one such group billeted at a work camp near Kwai Bridge and, it is claimed, is based entirely on fact, whereas Bridge on the River Kwai contained only an inkling of truth.

Brutality and degradation are once again strong currents running through the film. US airman Christopher Penn is shot down trying to blow up the bridge and is captured and tortured. Later an Australian seaman, played by Timothy Bottoms, is beheaded in front of his fellow prisoners.

The new movie was filmed in the Philippines and the filmmakers discovered a British officer and lived the part, very like the powerful performance of Guinness in the previous picture.

Of course, despite the film's quality, it remains to be seen whether today's cynical, more knowing audiences, less susceptible to propaganda than in 1957, will accept a World War II film which portrays the Allies as simplistic, mythical heroes.

'Dirty Harry' comes clean

By Hilary Bonner

CLINT EASTWOOD is Hollywood's ultimate survivor, the superstar who appears to have avoided the deadly pitfalls of life in Tinseltown.

Yet he admits he's fascinated by the way so many big names destroy themselves with drink or drugs.

And for his latest film, Bird, which he directed but doesn't act in, he turns the spotlight on one such victim, jazz genius Charlie "Bird" Parker, who destroyed himself with heroin.

In a rare and revealing interview, Clint 57, said: "I suppose everyone has a road down which they could have gone and become an out-and-out drunk or into some other form of self-destruction."

"But something in the brain says that's enough — and you stop. The ones who do go right down that road are in trouble."

Philosophy

He says his personal philosophy is to "take the work seriously and not yourself". And he admits: "The other important thing is to have self-respect. You mustn't lose your self-respect."

Bird with Forest Whitaker in the lead role, picked up two awards at the Cannes Film Festival.

When saxophone player Charlie died of a massive heart attack brought on by drug abuse, he was 35 years old. The doctor who signed his death certificate recorded that he was a man of about 65.

Now Eastwood says: "I have known many people in all forms of the arts who were self-destructive like Charlie. And they were not the genius that he was. You can't do anything about it, it seems."

Clint revealed in Cannes that he plans to quit acting and concentrate on directing.



Clint Eastwood: his latest film 'Bird' picked up two awards at Cannes

The lanky actor returns to the screen as legendary Dirty Harry later this year but the latest tough cop adventure, The Dead Pool, could be his last in the series.

Multi-millionaire Clint is a man whose surefooted march through the movieland minefield should be a blueprint for all budding actors.

When Westerners became unfashionable, the actor we first knew herding cattle on TV in Rawhide changed into an urban vigilante. Then, three years ago, as cowboys and Indians were all the rage, Clint gave us the splendid Pale Rider.

When asked about his ability to make getting it right look so easy, he smiled in that winning way which must hold part of the secret and said: "It's just I haven't been caught out yet."

He's even managed to survive a Hollywood marriage break-up with barely a whiff of scandal, although it cost him a small fortune in alimony and made him vow never to wed again.

He took long-time girlfriend Sondra Locke to Cannes just as there were whispers he was locked in a passionate romance with 52-year-old Mrs Jean Grace, his successor as Mayor of Carmel.

Grin

"Those stories are just rubbish," he says, flashing that easy grin.

He stretches those legs that go on and on for ever — the kindly, tough guy always calm in time of crisis.

How can anyone doubt a man like that?

Certainly not the huge audiences everywhere who keep rock-steady Clint where he belongs — at the top.

Captured: the great train robber on film

By Arthur Herman

LONDON, (UPI): The story of fugitive Ronald Biggs, the great train robber from Britain who escaped to Brazil, finally has been captured in a movie.

Even 25 years after Biggs and 14 masked accomplices robbed the Glasgow to London mail train of \$7.3 million in bank notes, he still fascinates the public. But it took another exile, Polish director Lech Majewski, to harness and complete the \$6 million project titled 'The Prisoner of Rio'.

"Hello, how are we doing?" Biggs asked the folks back home in a live telecast from Rio De Janeiro recently.

Looking almost grandfatherly he explained that after all the years in Brazil, which refused to extradite him because of his Brazilian son, "I'm still on conditional liberty — not allowed to work and gratefully not allowed to marry."

In Rio, Biggs, now 59, collaborated with Majewski on the screenplay for 'prisoner'.

"We closed ourselves together, and for the first two weeks there was a bodyguard standing next to us," Majewski said. "They didn't know whether I was serious about a movie or just another guy who wanted to take him back to England."

A first script centered on the real 1981 abduction of Biggs to the Caribbean island of Barbados by a band of free-lance British ex-servicemen. At that time a legal loophole again allowed him to return to Brazil.

But Majewski decided he didn't want to be limited to the facts of Biggs' life.

"I tried to do what Oscar Wilde would prescribe — that is, to say the truth by lying completely and writing a fictional story which contains the elements of reality," he said in an interview at Pinewood studios outside London.

So the movie is based on Biggs, played by the veteran Paul Freeman, best known as the evil French archaeologist, bellowing in 'Raiders of the Lost Ark'.

But the film's plot of a Scotland Yard inspector who kidnaps 'Ronnie' and tries to smuggle him aboard a British warship is something that never happened — at least not in that way.

And the movie, filmed on location in Rio and with a strong samba-based soundtrack, is as much about exotic and violent Brazil as about the train robber.

"It's a story of an exile who goes to the ultimate escape," Majewski said. "You can't escape further than Rio. Since I'm also an escapee or exile, I wanted to check the border of escape."

The movie begins with documentary-style footage representing the 1963 'Great Train Robbery'. Biggs' escape from a London high-security prison and his flight to Australia and then Brazil, setting the scene for the story of 'prisoner'.

"It's just as well the film sparkles in evoking Brazil, samba music and the carnival, because the story itself fails to excite. There are effective scenes of ecstatic carnival revelers, shantytown misery and of geriatric retired generals attended by bare-breasted black women."

But the clash of opposing personalities, the fugitive and inspector McFarland, played by Steven Berkoff, spatters rather than crackles.

Majewski was in 1977 the youngest-ever graduate in film and television directing at the state college of film theatre and television in Lodz, Poland. In 1981 he was showing his second feature film, 'The Knight', at the London Film Festival when the imposition of martial law in Poland made him decide to remain in the West.

"Poland can be a pretty harrowing experience and you can start self-censoring yourself," he said. "You are brought up in an air of being careful because if you are not, you are not going to work or be able to express yourself."

Majewski grew up fascinated by Brazil and especially its carnival.

"It's the only instance I know where thousands gather not for politics or religion but to celebrate life," he said.

Post-production work on 'prisoner' was finished just days before the Cannes film festival. There, a Swiss firm — Multi Media AG — was seeking to make distribution deals worldwide for the Biggs story.

Rod Steiger returns to the screen

By Ivor Davis

FOR two years Rod Steiger vanished from Hollywood.

The Oscar-winning star, considered one of America's greatest screen actors — in the same league as Marlon Brando, Robert De Niro and Paul Newman — didn't make a film, didn't leave home, didn't see friends or family from 1984 to 1986.

The only person he saw was his fourth wife, Paula Ellis.

"For two years," says Steiger, "I woke up in the morning and said one word — 'Morning.' For the next 10 or 12 hours I stared at the ceiling. Then at night I said, 'Good-night.'"

Steiger was paralysed by a depression from which he has finally emerged.

"I felt I couldn't act. I had no confidence in myself. It was two years of hell," says the star of such classics as *On the Waterfront* (1954), *The Pawnbroker* (1964), *The Chosen* (1962), *Doctor Zhivago* (1965), *No Way to Treat a Lady* (1968) and *The Amityville Horror* (1979).

Steiger is working again. He recently completed a horror feature film with Yvonne De Carlo titled *American Gothic*, which should be released this year. And he co-stars in the NBC-TV western *Desperado: Avalanche at Devil's Ridge*, which has been described as a

cowboy version of the classic TV series *The Fugitive*.

Steiger also landed a starring role in January *Man*, the Norman Jewison-produced film featuring Kevin Kline, Susan Sarandon, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio and Harvey Keitel. In the film he plays the mayor of New York City who is dogged by a serial killer. *January Man*, which is due out later this year, reunites Steiger with Jewison, who worked with him in the Oscar-winning picture *In the Heat of the Night* (1967) and *F.T.S.T.* (1978).

At 62, Steiger's hair is silver and thinning and he looks as if he could drop a few pounds. In his garage sits a silver Mercedes with a personalised license plate that reads "Courage." He speaks energetically about what his future holds.

Depression

"When you're in a depression you don't want to go anywhere," he says. "You want to disappear as you sit on the couch. You indulge yourself to such a degree of disintegration that it's sickening. It's an illness. I woke up convinced I couldn't act anymore, but part of it was psychological. I could have turned to drugs or booze but I didn't."

Steiger sought help from a psychiatrist and a local crisis clinic but, most of all, he says, his wife pulled him through the worst.

"I created pressure for my wife. To have someone there all day who doesn't talk and stares straight ahead wears you out."

Since overcoming the disease, Steiger says he has had a hard time finding top roles. It was the same problem he encountered a decade ago when he underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery and Hollywood producers were afraid to give him work. He proved then that he had the stamina to do the job and now he must do the same.

Steiger is occasionally honoured at film-festival tributes — recently, one in Dallas and another in Singapore — as more fans recognise his portrayals of everyone from W.C. Fields to Napoleon to Mussolini to Al Capone.

"I have my favourites: *Waterfront*, *Pawnbroker*, *The Chosen* and *No Way to Treat a Lady*. I call *No Way* my Peter Sellers movie — I played seven parts in it," he says.

Approached Steiger has often been approached to do a book about his life, including his four marriages. His first to actress Sally Grace lasted a few months; another to British actress Claire Bloom, who lives with writer Philip Roth, lasted 10 years and produced a daughter, Anna Justine, who resides in England and is an opera singer.

Marriage No. 3 was to a former Las Vegas dancer named Sherry Nelson, who made a living as a race-track handicapper. She sued and lost her palimony suit. They had lived together for two years and had been married for four.

Steiger's current marriage has lasted three years, although they have been together for seven. He says he is considering starting a new family with Paula, 38.

But he has abandoned any thoughts of penning his memoirs.

"I don't think my life is that interesting," he says. "Compared to people who have had dramatic and tragic lives, mine is a joke. But I suppose when I look back at my films I haven't done so badly. I have a normal outlook now. I know there are possibilities and I'm ready to meet them. Before, I couldn't say that because when you're depressed there are no possibilities. You convince yourself that I still have a lot to do. During my depression I didn't think that way. Now I'm ready to do it."



A scene from *Pelle the Conqueror* which won the top Golden Palm award at Cannes last month.

Double triumph for Danish cinema

By Michael Duggan

COPENHAGEN, (Reuters): A double triumph for Danish movie-makers has put Denmark's cinema industry firmly back on the international map after decades on the sidelines.

Pelle the Conqueror the story of a young boy's hard upbringing in 19th century rural Denmark, starring Swedish actor Max von Sydow, became the first Danish movie to win the top Golden Palm award at the Cannes film festival last month.

In April the film *Babette's Feast*, about a French cook who serves an unforgettable banquet for the people of a remote village in western Denmark, took the Hollywood Oscar for best foreign film — also a first for Denmark.

Danish Culture Minister Hans Peter Clausen said: "I am very happy and proud on behalf of the Danish film industry. The film industry over the last years has been growing in quality and self-consciousness."

Denmark has a long cinema tradition, claiming the world's

oldest film production company still in operation (the Nordisk Filmkompagni, founded in 1906) which owns the oldest movie studio still in use, at Valby in Copenhagen.

But since the death of director Carl Dreyer, who made films from 1930 to 1953, Denmark's film industry made little impact on the international scene until the latest awards.

Danish Film Institute Director Finn Aabye said it was not easy for a land of only five million people to compete with bigger countries which have more money available.

Drawback

"It makes it always difficult and heavy going for a little nation," he said. His institute distributes an annual 60 million crowns (9.2 million dollars) in state support to Danish film-makers, who currently produce a dozen films a year.

Language presents another barrier to selling the films abroad, as Danish is less accessible than English or French to most countries outside Scandinavia.

"It is a drawback for our

films, for our literature, that is why we are interested in programmes in the European Community and the European Council for support for smaller countries with subtitles and translation," Clausen said.

The success of *Pelle the Conqueror*, directed by Bille August, and *Babette's Feast*, directed by Gabriel Axel and starring French actress Stephanie Audran, may be due to excellent scripts taken from Danish classical literature.

Pelle was based on a work by socialist author Martin Andersen Nexoe, who lived on the Baltic island of Bornholm where the action was filmed, while *Babette's Feast* comes from a short story by Karen Blixen — best known to cinema audiences through the US movie *Out of Africa* based on her life and work.

Arts commentator Jan Joergensen, writing in the daily *Berlingske Tidende*, said that Denmark's film industry suffered from a lack of good original scripts.

"What do we do to keep up the success? One answer is apparently to go to the library

and dig up more classics from Denmark's literary tradition. They seem to be regarded abroad as exotic," he wrote.

Babette is now so popular in the United States that it is apparently fashionable to see the film and then recreate the multi-course banquet of French food and vintage wine which mellows the puritanical country folk depicted on the screen.

The heady wine of success may soon turn to vinegar for Danish film-makers however, as the European Community is threatening action to curb Danish state support, which it sees as unfair industrial competition.

"The European Commission has put its foot down and said this is not acceptable and they are going to take us to the European court," the culture minister said.

"This is money for cultural purposes, not industrial purposes. We get the money back if they (the film makers) succeed," Clausen added.

"Without (state support) we would not have had the opportunity to make any films."



Rod Steiger in TV western, *Desperado: Avalanche at Devil's Ridge*. The actor has just emerged from a severe bout of depression.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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MAYWEATHER AND HILL RETAIN TITLES

Barkley stops Hearn in 3rd round

LAS VEGAS, June 7. (Reuters): Thomas Hearn's flickering dream of greatness was snuffed out last night by four-to-one underdog Iran Barkley's second attempt to win a middleweight title.

Hearn, the only man to win titles in four weight divisions and whose only losses were to ring greats Sugar Ray Leonard and Marvin Hagler, was taken apart by the relatively unknown Barkley in the third round of their World Boxing Council middleweight title fight.

Decision
In a three-time fight night, Roger Mayweather retained his WBC super lightweight title with a split-points decision over fellow-American Harold Brazier.

And in a lacklustre affair between American Virgil Hill and Ramzi Hassan of Jordan, Hill retained his World Boxing Association light heavyweight crown in a unanimous decision.

The Hearn-Barkley fight was anything but dull. It packed in more excitement in less than three rounds than the other fights combined.

Hearn, who desperately wanted rematches with Leonard and Hagler to avenge the two humiliations in an otherwise brilliant



Barkley sends Hearn sprawling through the ropes.

(Reuters wirephoto)

career, instead ensured only a claim to being a very good fighter. Barkley, while not nearly as talented as Leonard or Hagler, nonetheless oozed joy in his exalted company.

Barkley lost his previous attempt at a middleweight title

when he dropped a 15-round points decision last October to Zaire-born Italian Sumnu Kamalbay for the WBA crown.

Hearn, 29, appeared in complete control of the fight for the first two rounds, hitting the awkward Barkley almost at will.

Hearn was especially effective with punishing blows to the ribs. "I started to coast too early. Iran wasn't hurt enough or tired enough," Hearn said after the fight.

"I didn't even see it," Hearn said of the right cross to the head that dropped him to the canvas in the third round.

Hearn rolled over and struggled to stand up on rubbery legs. Barkley, 28, then swarmed over Hearn and clubbed him into the ropes with furious combinations. A right uppercut sent Hearn through the ropes. Only referee Richard Steele, who grabbed Hearn around the waist, saved the former champion from falling out of the ring.

When he was through the ropes he was out. He was out of it," said Steele who stopped the fight at two minutes 39 seconds of the third round. Officials earlier had announced it as 2:32.

"I don't know how I felt," Hearn said. "Now I know how those guys I hit feel," he said. "What goes around, eventually comes around."

Barkley, who was bleeding from a cut mouth — he was sent out for the second round without a mouthpiece — and cuts over both eyes, knew his first knock-down did a lot of damage.

"I knew he was going to get up, but I saw he was hurt, so I just continued to overpower him away."

Indeed, he did and put away Hearn's dream as well.

Barkley was choked with emotion after the fight when he said he wanted to dedicate his effort to his close friend, fellow boxer Davey Moore, who was killed in a freak car accident last Friday.

Hearn, sometimes dubbed "The Hit Man", turned to Barkley at the post-fight news conference and said: "You know what you've done tonight? You've out hit the hit-man."

Happy
Asked about his plans for the future, a very mellow Hearn said: "Right now I just want to go home and relax. Even though I was defeated tonight, I'm still happy because a whole lot of people would love to do what I've done."

"I have no reason to hold my head down because I've been so successful. Every dog has his day and I've had many good days. Maybe it's time for me to move aside. God has made me a very happy and a very rich young man."

Hearn earned \$1.5 million and Barkley, \$350,000 for the fight.



Sujith: four for 26



Dhammika: scored 49

Dhammika and Sujith help Lions triumph

LANKA LIONS Cricket Club scored a 22-run victory over Green Stars in a Gulf Cricket League match at the EPI grounds on Friday.

The highlights of the game were splendid knocks by Dhammika Perera and Perusinghe and some fine medium pace bowling by Sujith Marasinghe.

Repaid
Lanka Lions, after winning the toss, opted to bat first but lost both their openers in the first four overs for only 19 runs. Skipper Fazal and Dhammika repaired some of the damage by putting on 45 runs for the third wicket before Fazal was out for 22.

Dhammika kept on batting with complete authority and with Perusinghe put on 50 runs for the fourth wicket before he was bowled for 49.

Perusinghe hammered a quick 38, including four fours, and Lanka Lions reached 133 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted

21 overs.

For Green Stars, Khalid, Amjad and Zahid took a wicket each.

Green Stars, requiring over six runs an over for victory, started their innings on a good note with openers Amjad and Sheriff scoring 26 runs off the first four overs.

Sujith, however, soon found his line and length and the Green Stars' batsmen found themselves in trouble. Sujith moved his deliveries sharply off the wicket to claim four wickets for only 26 runs in his six overs.

Economical
Dhammika, after his excellent performance with the bat, bowled an economical spell by giving away only 21 runs in his six overs. Green Stars found runs hard to come by and could only manage to score 111 in their allotted overs. Amjad was the top scorer with 26 runs.

Tilakawardene and Alwis shared the spoils by claiming one wicket each.

Saudi Arabia aims for Olympic gold medals

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, June 7. (AP): Oil-rich Saudi Arabia has pumped its petrodollars into conquering the desert, spudding it with factories, hospitals, schools and hotels and making it bloom with wheat fields in less than two decades. Now, it's shooting for Olympic gold medals.

If the Saudis walk away from the Seoul Olympic Games empty-handed, it won't be because they didn't try their best.

The Saudi government has hired Moroccan athlete Said Aouita, the world's top middle-distance runner, to groom three of Saudi Arabia's most promising athletes for Seoul. The Olympics are scheduled for Sept 17 through Oct 2.

Shape
The runners have left for Morocco, where Aouita will whip them into shape on his home turf through the summer.

Seven other track and field athletes will train in Italy, the United States and West Germany.

Although Saudi Arabia has participated in the Olympics since the Munich Games in 1972, this is the first time athletes have been sent abroad to train.

The move underlines the government's determination to mold Saudi athletes into world-class competitors.

But it has a long way to go: So far, no Saudi athlete has managed to win a medal.

"We thought we had a chance with soccer in Los Angeles, but we were unlucky in our first two matches," said Othman Al Saad, secretary-general of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee.

The soccer team will stay home this year, but 15 other athletes will compete in track and field, shooting, taekwondo, and archery events.

And while Al Saad doesn't have high hopes of victory this

year, he's optimistic about the future of sports in Saudi Arabia.

Unlike many other countries trying to develop Olympic teams, Saudi Arabia has the hard cash to support its athletic aspirations to the utmost.

Over the last few years, it has built several sports facilities, including a small sports hospital and the impressive King Fahd International Stadium, an ultra-modern, 500,000-square-yard edifice opened last March with great fanfare.

Also in the works is a "Leaders' Preparation Institute," opened this year to turn out coaches, referees and trainers.

Saudi Arabia currently relies on foreigners to train its athletes: a Brazilian coaches the soccer team, the taekwondo coach comes from Japan, and a Korean puts Saudis through their paces in archery.

If Saudi Arabia is ever to compete successfully in the international arena, Al Saad believes that the first step is co-ordination between the kingdom's presidency of youth welfare, which oversees all athletic activities, and the Education Ministry. He is deputy general president of the presidency of youth welfare.

Hopefuls
School sports are virtually non-existent in Saudi Arabia, where youngsters belong to informal "sporting clubs," which are separate from the educational system.

The result is that athletes with star potential are rarely discovered in time.

He said he hopes his country will begin training its athletes when they are young and that Olympic hopefuls will be able to devote themselves to sports full time.

As things stand now, all members of the Olympic team have other jobs and must train in their spare time.

When will Saudi Arabia welcome home a gold medalist? "Maybe after two more Olympic Games," Al Saad predicted, adding that the kingdom's commitment to international athletics is long term.

Miller wins 7th stage
SHEFFIELD, England, June 7. (AP): New Zealander Graeme Miller won the seventh stage of the round-Britain Milk race yesterday, outpacing four other riders despite feeling the after-effects of injuries suffered in a 50 mph crash.

After the 109-mile leg from Chester, the Soviet Union's Ivan Ivanov retained the yellow jersey of race leader by four minutes, 11 seconds.

Miller, 27, from Auckland, considered quitting after hurting his legs and backside during a high-speed descent in Wales on Friday. But his wounds were forgotten as he celebrated New Zealand's first stage win in the race for eight years.

Results
American League:
Baltimore 5 Detroit 2
Cleveland 6 Toronto 3
Boston 3 New York 2
Minnesota 9 Chicago 4
Kansas City 2 Oakland 0
Texas 6 California 4
Seattle 2 Milwaukee 0
National League:
Philadelphia 5 Montreal 4
Houston 10 Los Angeles 4
New York 6 St. Louis 2
Cincinnati 12 San Diego 0

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Reds take Padres to task

NEW YORK, June 7. (AP): Two outs away from a no-hitter, Cincinnati's Tom Browning took on a two-time batting champion and lost.

Browning had held the San Diego Padres to three walks and an error through eight innings last night. He retired Roberto Alomar on a grounder to third to start the ninth. Up came Tony Gwynn, a .422 hitter against Browning lifetime.

Browning fell behind 3-0, worked the count to 3-2 and then allowed a ground single to left. He ended up with his second career one-hitter as the Reds won 12-0.

"When he came up in the ninth inning, I sure as heck had no intention of walking him. I didn't mean to fall behind 3-0," said Browning, who one-hit the Cubs on June 4, 1986. "Once I got behind in the count, he fouled off about four pitches out of the strike zone, so he gave me every opportunity to get him out."

Phillies 5, Expos 4
Philadelphia's Lance Parrish and Mike Schmidt had two hits and two RBI apiece and Kevin Gross raised his lifetime record against Montreal to 11-3.

Gross, 6-2, allowed eight hits, struck out three and walked one. **Mets 6, Cardinals 2**

Darryl Strawberry drove in four runs with a homer and a single as New York won for the sixth time in seven games against St. Louis this season.

Astros 10, Dodgers 4
Gerald Young reached base five times, scored three runs and stole three bases and Glenn Davis drove in three runs with a homer and a single as Houston won at Los Angeles.

Mariners 2, Brewers 0
The Seattle Mariners yesterday became the last Major League team to shut out an opponent as Scott Bankhead, Mike Jackson and Mike Moore combined on a four-hitter for a 2-0 victory over Milwaukee.

"It was a great win and a shoutout at that," said Jim Snyder, who was named interim manager after Williams became the fourth Major League managerial casualty of the season. Snyder managed 14 years in the Minor Leagues and was the team's first-base coach.

The Mariners didn't have to force much against Milwaukee, which got all of its hits off Bankhead, 1-2. Jackson retired the side in the seventh and eighth innings and Moore worked the ninth for his second career save and first since Aug. 4, 1986.

Red Sox 3, Yankees 2
Billy was back, but he made no appearances outside the Yankees dugout as the Red Sox came from behind. Martin returned from a three-game suspension for throwing dirt at umpire Dale Scott in Oakland last Monday.

Mike Greenwell's homer and two-run double brought back the Sox after the Yankees got two runs in the first inning.

Royals 2, Athletics 0
Like Seattle, Kansas City got a three-way shutout as Steve Farr, Jeff Montgomery and Jerry Dnn-Gleaton combined on an eight-hitter.

Frank White singled in two runs in the second inning, making a winner of Farr, starting for the ailing Floyd Banoister. It was his first victory as a starter since Sept. 6, 1985.

Orioles 5, Tigers 2
Baltimore got just its second home victory against Detroit in the last three seasons as Cal Ripken broke out of a month-long slump with four hits, including a three-run homer, and scored three runs. Larry Sheets had three hits and drove in two runs.

Twins 9, White Sox 4
At Chicago, Tim Lander homered twice and Kirby Puckett drove in three runs with a two-run homer and tie-breaking double for Minnesota. The White Sox knocked out Frank Viola, who had won nine straight games, with three runs in the sixth inning.

Lewis seeks his best season ever

LOS ANGELES, June 7. (Reuters): Carl Lewis refuses to let the world forget him.

"I want this to be my best season ever," the 1984 Olympics quadruple gold medalist said after winning the 100 metres in 10.13 seconds at a Los Angeles athletics meet on Sunday. "I want the world to know I'm still here."

Once the king of sprints, Lewis lost his throne to Ben Johnson at last year's world championships when the Canadian ran a world-record 9.83 seconds in the 100 metres final.

Fastest
Runner-up Lewis equalled the US record of 9.93 seconds in his fastest race ever but the glitter was gone. Now the US star is attempting to recapture some of it.

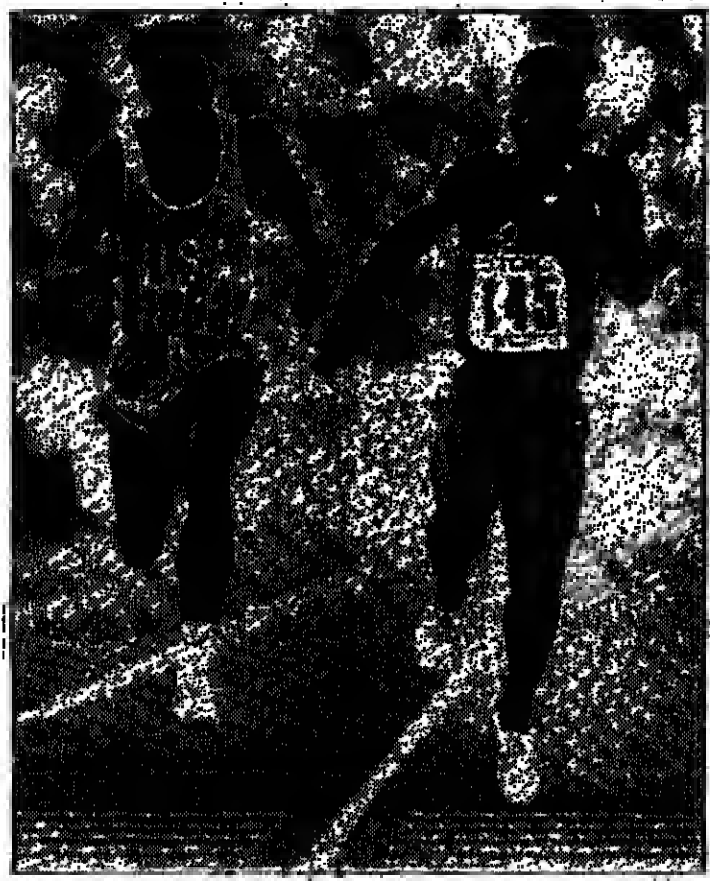
He showed up for the Los Angeles meet in sparkling gold shoes with green trim.

"Carl's favourite colour is gold," one fan quipped. "Gold for the medals and green for the money he's made."

This year's financial total may fall short of Lewis' expectations, however, because a proposed million-dollar, three-race series with Johnson is probably dead because of the Canadian's hamstring injury, Lewis said.

Each sprinter was to earn approximately \$500,000.

"That's a lot of money," Lewis said when asked about the series' likely demise. "But no, I'm not



Lewis (left) lost his throne to Johnson.

really disappointed."

He knows the two will meet in Seoul if both are healthy, at

Olympic time in September.

Besides, Lewis said, Johnson is only one of a number of factors

Kingdom gets his act together

LOS ANGELES, June 7. (Reuters): Olympic champion Roger Kingdom needs only one word to describe why he is running the hurdles so well again — "healthy."

Kingdom ran the fastest 110 metres hurdles in the world this year, 13.30 seconds, to defeat twice world champion Greg Foster at a Los Angeles meeting on Sunday.

Slowed
"This is the best I've felt in a long time," Kingdom said. "I still feel some pain, but I think I'm at least 80 per cent healthy."

Injuries to hamstrings in both legs had slowed the US hurdler since 1985, when he was ranked number one in the world for the second year in a row. Kingdom's time on Sunday was his best in

three years.

"I hit rock bottom watching the (1987) World Championships on television," said the 25-year-old Kingdom, who edged Foster for the 1984 Olympic gold medal. "All those guys were having a great time, and I was sitting at home and watching it."

"It was very frustrating and painful. I just said to myself 'hey, you've got to do it'."

He began working harder again, but was careful not to re-injure the hamstring muscles.

"Hamstrings are like a very sensitive girlfriend," Kingdom said. "You push them and they're gone."

His hamstrings have not troubled him though, and entering the Los Angeles meeting Kingdom already had posted the top

two times in the world this year.

"I don't have the best form out there, but I can really run between the hurdles," Kingdom said. "And even though I won today, this race doesn't count. People will be paying attention to what happens in July (at the US Olympic trials). They want to see who is going to make the team."

Travel
Before Olympic trials, Kingdom will probably compete in the US National Championships in mid-June at Tampa, Florida, and race in San Diego on June 25.

"I won't go to Europe because that's taking a big risk," he said. "The travel wears you out and I get dehydrated flying. That's one of the reasons I think I'm injured. But I will go over after the trials."

At last year's Helsinki meeting, Aouita, world record holder at 1,500 and 5,000 metres, ran the second-fastest mile ever in a time of three minutes 46.76 seconds.

The one-day meeting will also feature three world champions in an eight-strong Hungarian team.

Aouita to run in Helsinki GP

HELSINKI, June 7. (Reuters): Moroccan world champion Said Aouita will run in the World Games Grand Prix in the Finnish capital later this month, the meeting's promoter said yesterday.

Aouita, world champion at 5,000 metres, will run either the 1,000 metres or 1,500 metres at the meeting in the Olympic stadium on June 30, promoter Kari Wauhkonen told a news conference.

At last year's Helsinki meeting, Aouita, world record holder at 1,500 and 5,000 metres, ran the second-fastest mile ever in a time of three minutes 46.76 seconds.

The one-day meeting will also feature three world champions in an eight-strong Hungarian team.

going home to Michigan," said Johnson, who led Michigan state to a National Collegiate championship in 1979 before joining the Lakers.

Guard Byron Scott, who averaged over 21 points per game, forward James Worthy, always a threat to break a game open with his speed and scoring touch and perennial all star and future Hall of Famer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the 41-year-old centre, help round out the Lakers balanced scoring attack.

Control
Thomas will be assisted by his inconsistent but often dangerous backcourt mate Joe Dumars, veteran forward Adrian Dantley and their extremely physical centre Bill Laimbeer, who will be called upon to control the boards and slow down the Los Angeles fast break.

A strong bench led by hot-shooting Vinnie Johnson helped the Pistons wear out the Celtics' starting five in the conference finals. But the Detroit second string should not be as big a factor against the equally deep Los Angeles squad.



Johnson drives to the basket in Lakers' match against Celtics.

Johnson's first title since the franchise was moved from Fort Wayne, Indiana, over 30 years ago, he will take his place along-

SCHEDULE of Kapilku's Palaro '88 "Batakan ng Buto" games to be held on Thursday and Friday:

Thursday
Lawn tennis — (Qadisiya Sports Club)
5:00 to 6:30 pm

Oriental Trading vs Kay & Associates — men's singles; EEMC vs Shuaiba Port — men's doubles — last set; Shuaiba Port vs AG & P-CB — men's singles.

6:30 to 8 pm
Oriental Trading vs Kay & Associates — men's doubles; Shuaiba Port vs AG & P-CB — men's doubles; Ida Minor vs Willa Aloy — ladies.

Friday
Basketball (Kaifan gym)
7:00-8:30 am Pinoy Rest vs Ric
8:30-10:00 Alexco vs Kay & Associates
10:00-11:30 Safeway vs AG & P Co. of MIA
11:30-12:30 KPTC vs Mabuhay Rest
1:00-2:30 Wood Group vs Kuwait Regency Palace
2:30-4:00 Al Ghanim Freight/Al Jahra Hotel vs Fisher Al Adan Hosp
4:00-5:30 Cape Contracts vs Al Saad Chems
5:30-6:30 Table tennis (Kaifan gym)
8:30 to 11:30

Fisher Al Adan Hosp. vs Mowasat Hosp. ladies; Canada Dry vs KPTC
2:30 to 5:30

Cape Contracts vs Arab Telecom — men's; Al Ghanim Freight vs AG & P Co. of MIA — men's.

Chess — 8:30 am (Kaifan gym)
Kabayan vs AG & P Co. of MIA; RIC vs Arab Telecom; KPTC vs Al Ghanim Freight; Canada Dry vs Kay & Associates.

Darts (Kaifan gym)
8:30-10:00 Alfreze vs Kwt Regency Palace
10:00-11:30 Kabayan Rest vs Pinoy Rest
11:30-1:00 Kirby Bldg Sys vs AG & P Co. of MIA
1:00-2:30 RIC vs Al Ghanim Freight
2:30-4:00 MIA vs Ric

Lawn tennis (Qadisiya Sports Club)
5:00 to 6:30
Shuaiba Port vs RIC — men's singles; EEMC vs Farwaniyah Hosp — men's singles; Zeny Pacina vs Sally Rijoia — ladies.

6:30 to 8:00
Shuaiba Port vs RIC — men's doubles; Sally Rijoia vs Flor Gamboa — ladies.

Robin takes Bright Stars past Capri

BRIGHT STARS scored a five-wicket victory over Capri Cricket Club in a Capri Summer League game at the Fahahel Industrial Area ground on Friday.

Capri batted first but could only manage to score 114 runs in 21.5 overs. Zia was the top scorer with 39.

Required
Robin was the main wicket-taker with four for 17 in five overs. Mervyn took three for 21 and Saleem Anwar got two for 12.

In reply, Bright Stars scored the required runs for the loss of only five wickets. Arun was the highest scorer with an unbeaten 51 while Robin scored 32.

Nareesh was the only successful Capri bowler and claimed three wickets.

Robin: all round performance

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The Lakers, who were stretched to seven games by both the Utah Jazz and Dallas Mavericks,

are making their seventh trip to the finals in nine years. They have won four of their five titles in the 1980s and appear determined to continue their assault on the record books by making good on Riley's pledge.

The series will pit the League's two premier playmakers against each other.

Earvin "Magic" Johnson, the League's Most Valuable Player in 1987, is a triple threat who runs the Lakers' fast break offense. He can score, rebound, and has an uncanny ability to find the open man.

Johnson averaged almost 20 points and 12 assists per game during the regular season, but has been known to nearly double his assist output in crucial playoff games.

Johnson's good off-court friend Isiah Thomas is the man who makes things go for Detroit.

The talented back-court star has been a stand-out for years with the Pistons, but Thomas has often complained that he hasn't got the attention he feels he deserves.

If Thomas can bring the Pis-

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Royal opponent

LONDON, June 7. (AP): Top-ranked women's tennis player Steffi Graf will have a royal opponent when she helps the Women's International Tennis Association open its new European office Friday. Graf, preparing for Wimbledon, is scheduled to play Britain's Princess Diana at the exclusive Vanderbilt Club.

FA executive

LONDON, June 7. (AP): Graham Kelly, secretary of the English Football League since 1979, was picked today as the new chief executive of England's Football Association.

Lester Piggot

LONDON, June 7. (AP): The head of Britain's leading authority on royal titles and lineage blasted Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher today for recommending that imprisoned jockey Lester Piggot be stripped of his Order of the British Empire.

Thai boxer

TOKYO, June 7. (Reuters): Protest and criticism from Thailand could force the World Boxing Council (WBC) to offer Thai challenger Napa Katwan-chai a rematch with Japanese world strawweight champion Hiroki Ioka.

Late entry

FRANKFURT, West Germany, June 7. (Reuters): Former European table tennis champion Valentina Popova of the Soviet Union was one of seven players winning a late entry to the Seoul Olympics when places reserved for North Koreans were reallocated. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) said today.

Cycling tour

INSBRUCK, Austria, June 7. (AP): Italy's Franco Vona beat eight other cyclists by four seconds to win the 16th stage of the Italian cycling tour today as the race crossed the border and ended in this Austrian city.

Four-team soccer

TOKYO, June 7. (Reuters): Result of the final of a four-team soccer tournament today: Flamengo (Brazil) beat Bayer Leverkusen (West Germany) 1-0 (half-time 0-0). Scorer: Zico (55th minute).

Olympic medalist

KREFELD, West Germany, June 7. (Reuters): Decathlete Jürgen Hingsen, the 1984 Olympic silver medalist, said yesterday he had parted company from Norbert Pixgen, his trainer for 13 years.

Hamlet Challenge

JERICHO, New York, June 7. (AP): French Open semifinalists Henri Leconte, Andre Agassi and Jonas Svensson have entered the 16-man Hamlet Challenge, which will be held Aug 23-28.

Coach fired

HOUSTON, June 7. (AP): Houston Rockets coach Bill Fitch, who led the Rockets to the National Basketball Association finals in 1986, was fired yesterday after five seasons.

Olympic team

LONDON, June 7. (UPI): Britain is planning to send its biggest ever Olympic team to Seoul this year. Britain aims to field 384 competitors in 19 sports at a cost of £2.5 million (\$4.65 million).

British Open

LONDON, June 7. (UPI): British Open golf tradition going back 128 years will be broken at Royal Lytham next month. The leaders at the July 14 to 17 event will be separated from the field from the second day, instead of the third day, and they will start their rounds at about 3 pm (1400 GMT) for prime time TV viewing.

Soccer idol

VIENNA, June 7. (UPI): Austrian newspaper report that local soccer idol Toni Polster is about to be exchanged by his Italian club Turin for Brazilian striker Walter Casagrande of Ascoli.

Spanish fans

MADRID, June 7. (UPI): Almost 11 million fans attended Spanish First Division soccer matches in the 1987-88 season and stadiums were filled to 85 per cent of their capacity, press reports said.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Epsom Bridge held at the Sheraton Hotel on Friday:
N/S
1. Zuberi & Cher
2. Menonchi & Samaha
3. Dr Al Zaid & Qattan
E/W
1. Dr Tawil & Sabri
2. Dr Reddy & Stacker
3. Ravi & Mrs Pereira

GOOCH HAMMERS 8TH TEST CENTURY

England hold West Indies to draw

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 7. (Reuters): Opener Graham Gooch rose to the occasion with a defiant innings of 146 and ensured England avoided the humiliation of their 11th consecutive Test defeat by West Indies today.

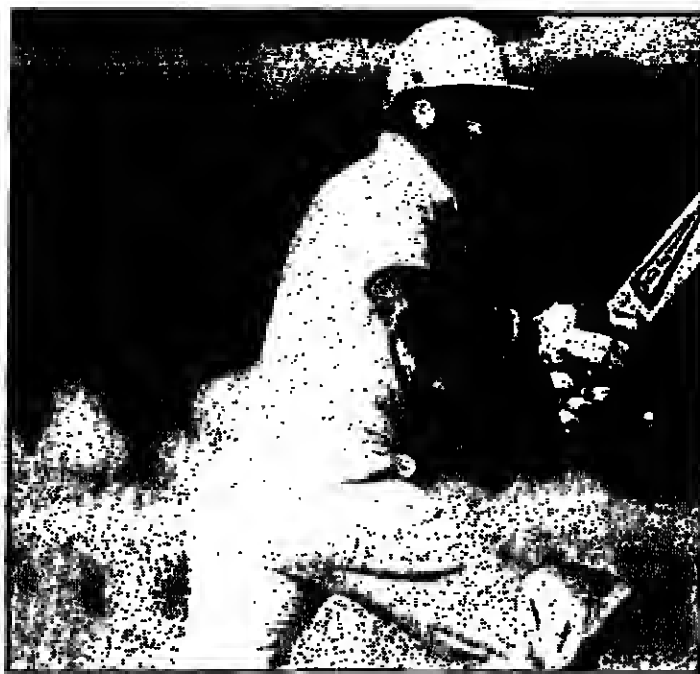
Gooch and David Gower, who marked his return to the international scene with a timely 88 not out, shared a third wicket stand of 161 that ultimately forced a draw on the fifth and final day of the first Test at Trent Bridge.

Prospect

England, 203 behind on first innings, took their overnight 67 for one to 301 for three and, with no prospect of a definite result, the captains and umpires agreed to make the traditional early close to the match.

West Indies, who completed a 5-0 clean sweep in each of their last two series against England, found their ambitions of extending that winning sequence were upset not only by Gooch's immensely authoritative batting but also by an injury to Malcolm Marshall.

The Barbadian fast bowler,



Gooch guides England to draw

who is both the spearhead of their attack and an inspiration to the side, had to leave the field shortly after lunch suffering from a rib injury and having been

able to bowl only five overs. Marshall, the first innings destroyer with six for 69, also scored a thunderous 72 and was named Man of the Match by former

England captain Ray Illingworth. Marshall also took one of only two wickets to fall during the day, bowling captain Mike Gatting for 29 with a superb delivery.

Gatting scored 29 and was lucky to make that many having been badly dropped off fast bowler Curtly Ambrose by wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon when he was 10.

Dujon spilled the chance as he dived in front of Marshall at first slip.

Gatting produced his best stroke of the day with a four through mid wicket off Courtney Walsh after he survived a strong shout for lbw earlier in the over.

The England captain made his runs from 101 balls and added 77 for the second wicket with Gooch in a stand occupying almost two and a half hours.

Fellow paceman Patrick Patterson captured the other wicket, having Gooch caught behind by Jeff Dujon, but by that time the Essex opener had made the game safe for England.

Gooch's eighth Test hundred, and fourth against West Indies, occupied 433 minutes and con-

tained 15 fours, while Gower faced 164 balls and struck 10 fours.

Former England captain Gower, who missed England's winter tours to have a rest from the game, batted with growing confidence in an innings that will have helped to re-establish his Test place.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings 245 (G. Gooch 73, C. Broad 54, M. Marshall six for 69, C. Ambrose four for 53).

WEST INDIES first innings 448 for nine declared (C. Hooper 84, V. Richards 80, M. Marshall 72, D. Haynes 60).

ENGLAND second innings (over- night 67 for one)

G. Gooch c Dujon b Patterson ... 146
C. Broad c Dujon b Ambrose ... 16
M. Gatting b Marshall ... 29
D. Gower not out ... 88
A. Lamb not out ... 6
Extras (lb-10 nb-6) ... 16

Total (for three wickets) ... 301

Fall of wickets: 1-39 2-116 3-277

Bowling: Marshall 13-4-23-1, Patterson 24-6-69-1, Ambrose 23-4-56-1, Walsh 25-6-84-0, Richards 9-1-26-0, Hooper 14-1-33-0.

Second Test: London (Lord's) — June 16 to 21.

Davis puts Northants on course for victory

LONDON, June 7. (Reuters): Winston Davis emphasised the depth and quality of West Indies' fast bowling resources as he thrust Northamptonshire towards victory over Somerset in the English County Cricket Championship yesterday.

Davis, who has won 15 Test caps but was overlooked for the current tour of England, captured four for 54 as Somerset, 45 behind on first innings, were dismissed for 178 on the second day at Taunton.

The St Vincent paceman made the inroads by taking two early wickets before Australian Test all-rounder Steve Waugh, with a spirited 40 in 33 balls, and Julian Wyatt responded boldly by lashing 74 in nine overs.

But Davis, who ended with match figures of nine for 146, returned to regain the initiative with Duncan Wild and David Capel, who took three wickets each. Wyatt was last out for a fighting 69 from 105 balls.

Prospects

Fifth-placed Northants needed 134 to win but were jolted by paceman Adrian Jones, who took three wickets in his second over. They were 59 for three at the close.

Yorkshire, once the major power in the championship, continue to struggle and their prospects of improving on 16th place in the 17-team competition look bleak after being punished by Surrey at Harrogate.

A painstaking 101 by opener Grahame Clinton, allied to dashing, unbeaten half-centuries from Jack Richards (60) and Keith Medleycott (54), lifted Surrey to 342 for four in reply to Yorkshire's first innings of 142.

Yorkshire have won the championship outright more times than any other county but the last of their 29 clear-cut wins — they shared the title once — was in 1968.

Surrey exposed their moderate attack, particularly the slow bowlers whose performance com-



Davis: four for 54

trusted with left-arm spinner Medleycott. He ended with four for 19 to complete Yorkshire's decline in the morning.

Neil Taylor scored his first century of the season for Kent, who declared at 252 for two ... 117 behind Glamorgan on first innings at Cardiff. The opener's 112 came off 226 balls.

Tim Curtis (108) and Zim-habwe-born Graeme Hick (78) provided the basis of Worcestershire's 333 for eight against Middlesex in the top-of-the-table clash at Lord's which was hit by the loss of the first day through rain.

Curtis took more than six hours to reach three figures before being run out, while the prolific Hick made his runs off 193 balls and struck 12 fours.

Scores

At Harrogate: Yorkshire 142 in 58.1 overs (P. Robinson 58, K. Medleycott four for 19), Surrey 342 for four (G. Clinton 101, J. Richards 60 not out, K. Medleycott 54 not out).

At Liverpool: Hampshire 328 for six declared in 124 overs (J. Ayling 88 not out and 10 for three, Lancashire 251 for five declared in 87.1 overs (A. Hayhurst 80, N. Fairbrother 69, W. Akrum 46 not out).

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire 300 for eight declared in 98.2 overs (A. Storie 68, G. Small 45 not out, C. Cairns four for 84), Nottinghamshire 146 for five in 68 overs.

At Hove: Sussex 272 in 103.2 overs (D. Malcolm five for 52) and 33 for two, Derbyshire 250 in 80 overs (K. Barnett 67, P. Bowler 52, A. Pigott four for 60).

At Cardiff: Glamorgan 369 for seven declared in 142 overs (R. Ontong 120 not out, J. Derrick 50 not out) and 16 for one, Kent 252 for two declared in 82.4 overs (N. Taylor 112 not out, S. Hinks 72, M. Benson 54).

At Lord's: Worcestershire 333 for eight (T. Curtis 108, G. Hick 78) and Middlesex 142 in 58.1 overs (P. Robinson 58, K. Medleycott four for 19), Surrey 342 for four (G. Clinton 101, J. Richards 60 not out, K. Medleycott 54 not out).

Renault announce return to Formula One racing

PARIS, June 7. (AP): The French auto firm Renault said today it will return to Formula One Grand Prix racing in 1989 as an engine manufacturer.

Patrick Faure, a division of the French government-owned automaker, announced that the firm signed a three-year contract with the British Williams team and will use an atmospheric engine.

Renault was one of the powers in auto racing from 1977 to 1986. Its motors had 20 victories in Formula One racing, all but five of them in cars and chassis built by Renault as well.

Alain Prost missed the 1983 world driving championship by two points when he was with Renault before switching to his present McLaren team.

Renault revolutionised Formula One driving when it developed the turbocharged engine.

In turbocharging, exhaust gases turn a turbine which pressurises the air mixing with the fuel intake. It works more efficiently than a supercharged air pump driven by a pulley.

Slowly turbocharged cars took over, dominating the sport so much that the International Federation of Sports Autos (FISA) decided to phase out the engines by 1989.

Kuwait TV to telecast Euro-soccer

THE Kuwait TV authorities have completed necessary preparations for live telecasts of the European Soccer Championship, starting in West Germany on Friday.

All the matches of the championship will be shown live on KTV2 starting with the opening ceremony on Friday, June 10, at 8.30pm. The opening ceremony will be followed by the opening match between West Germany and Italy at 9.15pm.

Renowned Kuwaiti commentator Khaled Al Harban will provide the commentary in Arabic for all the matches. The competition ends on June 25.

Turner stuns Zivojinovic in opener



Cash: won easily

LONDON, June 7. (Reuters): Young British tennis player James Turner, ranked a lowly 742nd in the world, shocked sixth-seeded Yugoslav Slohodon Zivojinovic with an easy 6-2 6-3 win in the first round of the London Grasscourt Tournament last night.

The 22-year-old, who is not even ranked in Britain's top 10, was given a standing ovation by the Queen's Club centre court crowd after comprehensively beating Zivojinovic, the world's number 23.

Turner has never beaten any other world class player except Zivojinovic, who he defeated in the Beckenham tournament in England last year.

"When I saw the draw and the

court we were playing on, I was delighted. I've been having a very disappointing year but this really makes my day," said Turner, who was in the tournament only because another wild card entry pulled out.

Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia had no such problems in his first round match, dispatching South African Pieter Aldrich 6-0 6-1.

Looked

"I'm feeling better and playing better than this time last year," said the Australian who looked relaxed throughout the 49-minute match against the little-known Aldrich.

"I decided after winning Wimbledon last year I had to improve.

Now I think my game has strengthened in quite a few areas.

"My general attitude is still the same but there is one big difference — I know I can win a big tournament on grass so the confidence is there.

Cash, seeded second here, won the first nine and last three games with a thrilling display of power serving and sharp volleying, intermingled with subtle drop shots and line-clipping lobs.

The Australian, who owns a flat near Queen's Club, has not played on grass since beating Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl in the Wimbledon final last year.

"I like playing on grass," he said, adding with a smile: "Your clothes don't get so dirty as they do on clay."

Danes confident of doing well

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, June 7. (Reuters): Denmark's semifinalists in the 1984 European Championship soccer finals, arrived here today confident they could go one step further in this year's tournament which starts on Friday.

Veteran Libero and captain Morten Olsen, 38, who scored his first international goal for more than a decade in Denmark's 3-1 win over Belgium last Sunday, said the squad were in a happy and determined mood.

"I am sure we can do well this time," he said, as the players laughed among the crowds waiting to collect their official accreditation for the tournament.

"We have no injury problems in the squad for the first time in a long time and we played well against Belgium. We are in a good frame of mind — but we know our opening match against Spain will be vital."

Spain beat Denmark on penalties in the semifinals of the 1984 tournament in France and unexpectedly thrashed them 5-1 in the second round of the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico.

Chance

"We all remember that well and want to make up for it," said winger Jesper Olsen. "A lot of people have said this is the last chance for this squad to win something and we aim to try and do that."

He said the squad had been together for a week and had already built up a terrific team spirit.

After their match against Spain, Denmark meet West Germany and Italy in their attempt to qualify for the semifinals.

The Soviet Union squad arrived in West Germany for the eight-nation tournament earlier today and immediately transferred from Frankfurt airport to their training headquarters at Stuttgart.

The Netherlands squad came last week, followed by Italy and Spain on Sunday. Ireland and England are due into Stuttgart tomorrow.

Meinecke upset by compatriot

BOLOGNA, Italy, June 7. (AP): Fourth-seeded Tore Meinecke was upset by fellow-West German Damir Keretic yesterday in a first-round match of the \$99,000 Bologna tennis tournament.

In another first-round match between unseeded players on clay courts of the local tennis club Uruguayano Marcelo Filippini downed Mexican Augustin Moreno in straight sets.

Only two matches were completed in the opening day of the Bologna tournament, which is part of the Nabisco Grand Prix men's circuit. It awards a first prize of \$18,600 in Sunday's final.

Other matches were rained out.

Voeller certain to play in West Germany-Italy opener

DUISBURG, West Germany, June 7. (Reuters): Rudi Voeller, heavily criticised after West Germany's warm-up match against Yugoslavia on Saturday, is certain to play in the host nation's European Soccer Championship opener against Italy on Friday.

Team manager Franz Beckenbauer said yesterday: "There is no sense in doubting him. He is a forward with extra class and the team accepts him completely. They will give him the help he needs now."

Beckenbauer, speaking at the team's training headquarters, said: "We don't know if Rudi will hold through, but he is good for 70 minutes. Anyway, we have no guarantee that anybody else will get the breakthrough."

The nation's sportswriters agreed in yesterday's newspapers that he put up a poor performance in West Germany's tame 1-1 draw with Yugoslavia.

The Sueddeutsche Zeitung said Voeller, playing in front of his old Bremen home crowd, was "with respect, a total loss."

Former international Paul Breitner said in his column in the tabloid Bild that Voeller should be dropped from the championship.

Responding to Breitner's criticism, Voeller told reporters "I would have been disappointed if anything else had come from him."

Beckenbauer left himself a way out of a future Voeller dilemma, however. "If he doesn't come into form we will have to think things over," the manager said. "But certainly not in haste."

Otherwise, Beckenbauer is keeping his team for the match against Italy secret until about an hour before the kickoff in Dues-seldorf.

Striker Frank Mill, described by Beckenbauer as an "excellent alternative," told reporters: "I give myself a chance of playing for at least one half on Friday."

However, nothing was said of Dieter Eckstein, who won the praise of critics for his second half display as Voeller's substitute in the Yugoslavia match.

Showing

Another main talking point was the make-up of the West German midfield, after Beckenbauer had earlier expressed disappointment over the showing of Olaf Thon.

But the manager kept his thoughts to himself and would only say, "there are some possibilities" for this position, for example Pierre Littbarski or Wolfram Wuttke.

Neither the off-form Littbarski or Wuttke, an untiring and speedy midfielder with a powerful shot, played against Yugoslavia, although both were substitutes.

Beckenbauer, who guided West Germany through a storm of internal squabbling and external criticism of the World Cup final in Mexico in 1986, has already acknowledged that a semifinal place would represent success for his unsettled and out-of-form team in this tournament.

But he knows the vast majority of the West German public expect them to clinch a record third European title in Munich's Olympic stadium on June 25.

A poll in the latest issue of



Voeller: accepted by his team

sports magazine Sport Illustration revealed 66 per cent of its readers expected their team to win, despite a series of mediocre results of their run-in to the finals.

Such optimism and the installation of the West Germans as the bookmakers' favourites has

added to the pressures on the 42-year-old coach who inherited the job from Jupp Derwall in 1984 following the West Germans' early elimination from the last European finals.

Beckenbauer has lived with the pressures ever since. But he admitted: "I do not expect to

become a prisoner working for the DFB (West German Soccer Federation)."

Born in Munich, where he led Bayern to their successes of the 1970's, Beckenbauer will be gambling for the highest possible stakes between now and June 25.

If the Germans win, he will become the first man to win the European championship as both a player and a coach. But if they lose, he could become another casualty of their relentless pursuit of success.

Tipped

"If the DFB do not want me any more at any time, then we can arrange things in two seconds," he said recently, acknowledging the criticism which has grown with his team's disappointing results.

Former team-mate Berti Vogts, who played at right-back in the 1972 European Championship and 1974 World Cup-winning teams captained by Beckenbauer, has already been strongly tipped to take over from the Kaiser if he decides to go at the end of the month. Vogts is the current national youth coach.

History may favour the hosts — three of the seven previous finals have been won by the home team — but few West German soccer experts envy Beckenbauer's position, particularly after a laboured draw against Yugoslavia.

Former midfielder star Gunter Netzer said: "We must be the favourites. There are pressures in playing at home, but playing at home also means we know the pitches and will have the fans behind us."

But Derwall, who experienced it all in France last time, said: "I wouldn't like to be in his shoes now."

Meanwhile, West Germany emerged as the team most favoured to reach the final of the championship in a magazine poll of the managers of the eight competing nations published yesterday.

No runaway favourite emerged for the competition but three trainers — Italy's Azeglio Vicini, Spain's Miguel Munoz and England manager Bobby Robson — backed the West Germans.

Kuwait cited their home advantage, Munoz praised their fighting powers and Robson said they were "a typical tournament team."

The hosts themselves fear Italy most. Beckenbauer told the West German magazine Quick, which carried out the poll, the Italians had a young but internationally experienced squad.

Attack

Irish manager Jackie Charlton chose England as favourites, saying they had the most dangerous attack in Europe and had vastly improved their technique.

The other three managers picked their own teams to win. Denmark's Sepp Piontek said: "We are still in mid-season while everyone else is drained at the end of a long, tiring season." But he also tipped the Soviet squad to do well.

Soviet trainer Valery Lobanovskii said his team would win and Dutch coach Rinus Michels also backed his own side, because they had played almost unchanged for five years.